

This document discusses solutions to Real GMAT – RC passages. All passages are tackled using the technique OCTAVE (the guaranteed superfast formula for 100% accuracy on GMAT RC) taught exclusively in TOP-ONE-PERCENT GMAT classes / courses.

# RC LATEST SOLUTIONS

TOP-ONE-PERCENT

SANDEEP GUPTA

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and designed by**

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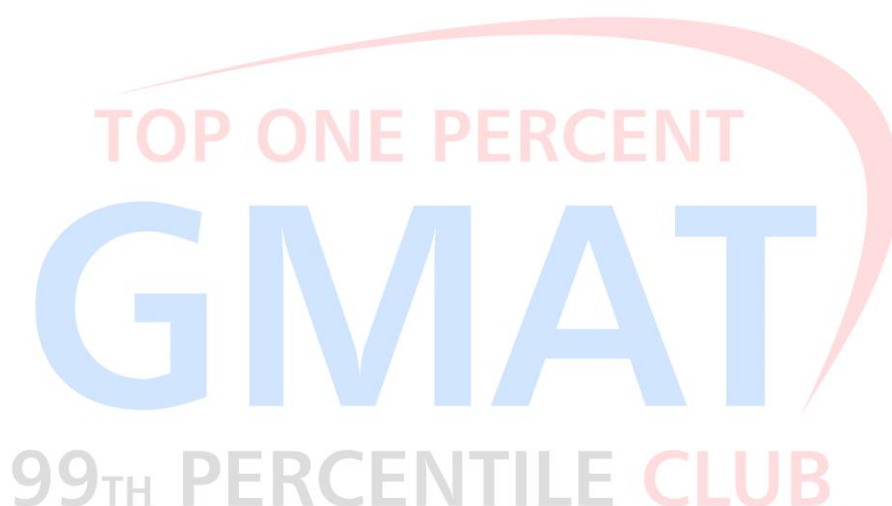
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**Real-GMAT RC Passages discussed**

**SOLUTION:** By using the technique OCTAVE (the guaranteed superfast formula for 100% accuracy on GMAT RC) taught exclusively in Top-One-Percent GMAT classes / courses



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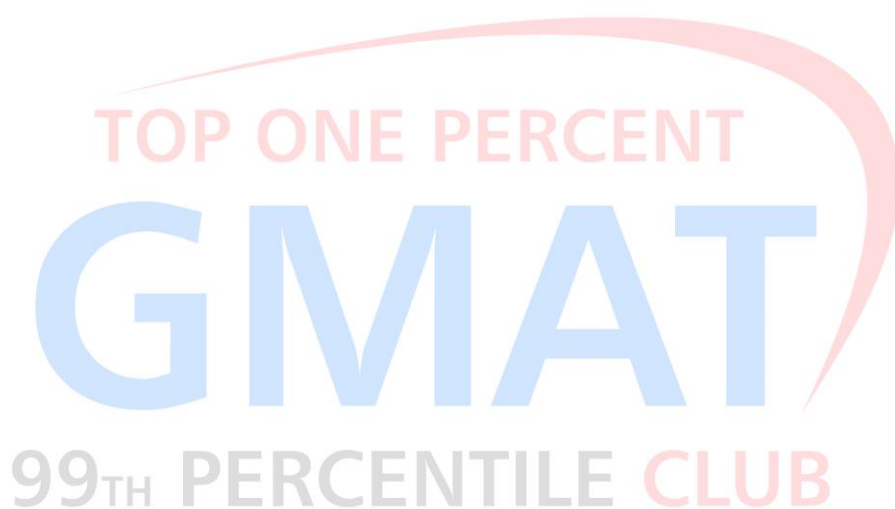
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## PART I

RC LATEST DOCUMENT



SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 2)

The **idea** that equipping homes with electrical appliances and other “modern” household technologies would eliminate drudgery, save labor time, and increase leisure for women who were full-time home

Line 5 workers remained largely unchallenged until the women’s movement of the 1970’s spawned the groundbreaking and influential works of sociologist Joann Vanek and historian Ruth Cowan. Vanek

Line 10 analyzed 40 years of time-use surveys conducted by home economists to argue that electrical appliances and other modern household technologies reduced the effort required to perform specific tasks, **but (CONTRAST WORD)**

**ownership of these appliances did not correlate with less time spent on housework by full-time home**

Line 15 **workers.** In fact, time spent by these workers remained remarkably constant—at about 52 to 54 hours per week—from the 1920’s to the 1960’s, a period of significant change in household technology.

In surveying two centuries of household technology in

Line 20 The United States, Cowan argued that the “industrialization” of the home often resulted in more work for full-time home workers because the use of such devices as coal stoves, water pumps, and vacuum cleaners tended to reduce the workload of

Line 25 married-women’s helpers (husbands, sons, daughters, and servants) while promoting a more rigorous standard of housework. The full-time home worker’s

Comment [RN1]: Main IDEA...



duties also shifted to include more household management, child care, and the post-Second World

Line 30 War phenomenon of being “Mom’s taxi.”

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author mentions the work done by Vanek and Cowan, who, by using the data collected by home economists, challenged the prevailing view (idea, opinion) that the time required by women reduced by the ‘industrialization’ of the household.

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, which of the following is true about the **idea** mentioned in the highlighted text?

- A. It has been undermined by data found in time-use surveys conducted by home economists ... **the analysis of the time-use surveys is said to be done by Vanek in order to disprove (undermine) the idea (prevailing belief) mentioned in the highlighted text. CORRECT**
- B. It was based on a definition of housework that was explicitly rejected by Vanek and Cowan ... **the passage only mentions the idea in the first line and nowhere states the basis of the idea.**
- C. It is more valid for the time period studied by Cowan than for the time period studied by Vanek ... **a typical mathematical answer. There is nowhere a relative comparison of the two scholar’s works. Moreover, both scholars have disproved the validity of the highlighted idea through their arguments ... 180 degree answer**
- D. It is based on an underestimation of the time that married women spent on housework prior to the industrialization of the household ... **the idea talks explicitly about the post industrialization of the household and certainly not about any underestimation.**
- E. It inaccurately suggested that new household technologies would reduce the effort required to perform housework ... **the idea exclusively believes in reducing the time not the effort ... effort reduction is mentioned in the passage as an inference out of Vanek’s analysis.**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. analyzing a debate between two scholars ... **there is no debate and certainly not between the two scholars mentioned ... they’re both on the same side.**
- B. challenging the evidence on which a new theory is based ... **challenging implies the author must have an opinion and the tone should be negative. There is no theory.**
- C. describing how certain scholars’ work countered a prevailing view ... **Exactly what the passage does. CORRECT.**

- D. presenting the research used to support a traditional theory ... **there is no theory in the passage ... even if the idea were to be considered a theory the answer choice runs 180 degree.**
- E. evaluating the methodology used to study a particular issue ... **evaluating means a balanced tone.**

The passage suggests that Vanek and Cowan would agree that modernizing household technology did not

- A. reduce the workload of servants and other household helpers ... **180 degrees answer ... in lines 20 - 27 Cowan argues for the exact opposite**
- B. raise the standard of housework that women who were full-time home workers set for themselves ... **full time home workers setting standards for themselves is nowhere mentioned in the passage**
- C. decrease the effort required to perform household tasks ... **180 degrees ... line 12 Vanek says the exact opposite to this choice.**
- D. reduce the time spent on housework by women who were full-time home workers ... **lines 12 – 15 (Vanek) and lines 21 – 22 (Cowan) confirm this answer choice accurately. CORRECT**
- E. result in a savings of money used for household maintenance ... **money savings is not even remotely associated with the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 3)

In recent years, Western business managers have been heeding the **exhortations** of business journalists and academics to move their companies toward long-term, collaborative “strategic partnerships” with their external business partners (e.g., suppliers). The experts’ **advice** comes as a **natural reaction** to numerous studies conducted during the past decade that compared Japanese production and supply practices with those of the rest of the world. The link between the **success of a certain well-known Japanese**

**Comment [RN2]:** Note the use of a strong emotional word. Stresses the emphatic nature of the persuasion on the expert’s part.

**Comment [RN3]:** A slightly mocking tone of the author conveying contempt over the fact that something that should have been more calculative in nature and based on more rigorous statistical analysis is actually something that comes as a natural reaction.

Line 15 **automaker** and its effective management of its suppliers, for example, has led to an **unquestioning belief** within Western management circles in the value of strategic partnerships. Indeed, in the automobile sector all three United States manufacturers and most of their European competitors have launched programs to reduce their total number of suppliers and move toward having strategic partnerships with a few.

Line 20 **However (CONTRAST WORD), new research concerning supplier relationships in various industries demonstrates that the widespread assumption of Western managers and business consultants that Japanese firms manage their suppliers primarily through strategic partnerships is unjustified.** Not only do Japanese firms appear to

Line 25 conduct a far smaller proportion of their business through strategic partnerships than is commonly believed, but they also make extensive use of “market-exchange” relationships, in which either party can turn to the marketplace and shift to different business partners at will, a practice usually associated with Western manufacturers.

Line 30

**Comment [RN4]:** Business strategies based on belief. The author's certainly not happy about the current scenario. NEGATIVE TONE...also signalling off a possibility of his opinion to follow.

**Comment [RN5]:** Author's OPINION...notice how he introduces it with a contrast word. The part that follows from here on is evidence he uses to back his claim...or his view of the situation.

**Author: OPINION**

**Tone: NEGATIVE (with no suggestion)**

The author introduces current scenario/practice in the western part of the business world and presents the assumption underlying the belief in that practice. He then goes on to claim the unwarranted nature of the assumption in the second para and states evidence to further his claim.

## QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. examining economic factors that may have contributed to the success of certain Japanese companies ... **a neutral tone answer choice ... the answer choice does also seem like a bullet list answer option.**
- B. discussing the relative merits of strategic partnerships as compared with those of market-exchange relationship ... **the author is nowhere in the passage comparing strategic partnerships with market-exchange relationship ... moreover, the word merits is not confirmed by the passage – he never discusses anything such as merits.**
- C. challenging the validity of a widely held assumption about how Japanese firms operate ... **Negative tone answer ... carries with it the exact contention that the author has with the belief/assumption. CORRECT.**
- D. explaining why Western companies have been slow to adopt a particular practice favoured by Japanese companies ... **neutral answer choice by OCTAVE approach to begin with ... the slowness of the adoption of a practice is not mentioned and thus not verified.**
- E. pointing out certain differences between Japanese and Western supplier relationships ... **supplier relationships are mentioned as evidence to the shift in the western business management mind set, the passage however is not about supplier relationships ... pointing out differences again gives off a bullet list scent.**

According to the passage, the advice referred to in the highlighted text was a response to which of the following?

- A. A recent decrease in the number of available suppliers within the United States automobile industry ... **the answer choice inverts the cause and effect relationship ... if at all the fall in the number of associated (NOT available) suppliers would be a response to the advice and not the other way around.**
- B. A debate within Western management circles during the past decade regarding the value of strategic partnerships ... **there is absolutely NO mention of any debate among the western management ... the word debate isn't verified.**
- C. The success of certain European automobile manufacturers that have adopted strategic partnerships ... **the advice if at all is linked with Japanese examples not European.**
- D. An increase in demand over the past decade for automobiles made by Western manufacturers ... **the advice regarding a move towards more strategic partnerships has absolutely nothing to do with any sort of demand whatsoever.**
- E. Research comparing Japanese business practices with those of other nations ... **the wording is an exact match with the content in line 5 – 9 of the passage ... rest of the world is synonymous with other nations. CORRECT.**

The author mentions “the success of a certain well-known Japanese automaker” most probably in order to

- A. demonstrate some of the possible reasons for the success of a certain business practice ... the success mentioned is of the well – known Japanese automaker and not of any business practice ... the only business practice mentioned in the passage is one that the author is against (has a negative tone towards its wholehearted adoption).
- B. cite a specific case that has convinced Western business experts of the value of a certain business practice ... CORRECT match ... the answer choice is an exact word to word match of lines 10 – 14.
- C. describe specific steps taken by Western automakers that have enabled them to compete more successfully in a global market ... something that is not mentioned at all and something that has even a shred of a link with the passage is 180 degrees. Japanese are the more successful ones.
- D. introduce a paradox about the effect of a certain business practice in Japan ... the word paradox is unconfirmed by the passage ... a paradox implies incompatibility and there is none around the highlighted text in question.
- E. indicate the need for Western managers to change their relationships with their external business partners ... again 180 degrees ... the author has a negative tone towards the change that many business managers blindly believe should be brought about.

Which of the following is most clearly an example of the practice (less of strategic, more of market exchange) referred to in the last sentence of the passage?

- A. A department store chain that employs a single buyer to procure all the small appliances to be sold in its stores ... single buyer implies more of strategic and less of market exchange ... 180 degrees.
- B. An automobile manufacturer that has used the same supplier of a particular axle component for several years in a row ... same supplier over several years again means more of strategic and less of market exchange ... 180 degrees.
- C. A hospital that contracts only with union personnel to staff its nonmedical positions ... highly strategic practice ... WRONG.
- D. A municipal government that decides to cancel its contract with a waste disposal company and instead hire its own staff to perform that function ... the practice is absolutely irrelevant to the discussion in the passage.
- E. A corporation that changes the food-service supplier for its corporate headquarters several times over a five-year period as part of a cost-cutting campaign ... several times a year implies less of strategic and more of market exchange ... perfect match ... CORRECT.

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 4)

Companies that must determine well in advance of the selling season how many units of a new product to manufacture often under-produce products that sell well and have overstocks of others. The increased

Line 5 incidence in recent years of **mismatches** between production and demand seems **ironic**, since point-of-sale scanners have improved data on consumers' buying patterns and since flexible manufacturing has enabled companies to produce, cost-effectively, small

Line 10 quantities of goods. This type of manufacturing has greatly increased the number of new products introduced annually in the United States. However, frequent introductions of new products have two problematic side effects. For one, they reduce the  
Line 15 average lifetime of products; more of them are neither at the beginning of their life (when prediction is difficult) or at the end of their life (when keeping inventory is expensive because the products will soon become obsolete). For another, as new products

Line 20 proliferate, demand is divided among a growing number of stock-keeping units (SKU's). Even though manufacturers and retailers can forecast aggregate demand with some certainty, forecasting accurately how that demand will be distributed among the many  
Line 25 SKU's they sell is difficult. For example, a company may be able to estimate accurately the aggregate number of shoes it will sell, but it may be uncertain

**Comment [RN6]:** One Reason for the ironic mismatch

**Comment [RN7]:** Second reason for the ironic mismatch mentioned above.



about which specific types of shoes will sell more than other types.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage is a purely factual one. The author is concerned with bringing forth the reasons why a particular kind of manufacturing (flexible manufacturing) produces seemingly ironic results (the mismatches).

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following most accurately describes the function of the last sentence in the passage?

- A. To cite a situation in which the aggregate demand is more important than the distribution of demand among SKU's ... **the passage has NO mention of a comparison between aggregate and distributed demand.**
- B. To refute an assertion about the side effects of flexible manufacturing ... **refute implies the author must have a negative tone and an opinion in writing the last line.**
- C. To illustrate an assertion about companies' ability to forecast demand ... **the author exemplifies the assertion in the penultimate sentence of the passage ... perfect match. CORRECT.**
- D. To provide an example of ways in which companies address the difficulties of forecasting demand ... **'address the difficulties' is something that can't be justified from the passage ... the passage has no mention of whether the problem has been addressed.**
- E. To note an exception to the author's assertion about distributing demand among SKU's ... **it is an exemplification rather than an exception.**

The passage suggests which of the following about divided demand among a growing number of SKU's?

- A. It has increased the average lifetime of products ... **the divided demand is presented as a consequence of flexible manufacturing and not as a reason for the increase/decrease of the average lifetime of products.**
- B. It has resulted from retailer's attempts to predict demand more accurately and avoid both understocks and overstocks ... **the passage asserts it results from flexible manufacturing and not from any sort of attempts**
- C. It has decreased the use of flexible manufacturing by companies ... **inversion of cause and effect scenario ... the manufacturing causes the divided demand, not the other way round.**
- D. It has not increased the expense of keeping inventory of certain products ... **divided demand makes it tougher to predict demand of a specific type of a kind ... leading to a mismatch between demand and supply ... the mismatch need not ALWAYS increase inventory expenses.**

- E. It has not prevented companies from predicting aggregate demand with some certainty ... the option is a 100% inferable from lines 21 – 25 of the passage ('Even though ...). **CORRECT.**

According to the passage, which of the following has led to growth in the number of new products introduced in the United States each year?

- A. Reduced average lifetime of products ... **inversion of the cause and effect relationship ... flexible manufacturing has led to the reduced average lifetime and not the other way round.**
- B. Increased ability to forecast aggregate demand ... **the passage has NO mention of the 'increase in the ability to predict aggregate demand' anywhere ... not verified.**
- C. More cost-effective ways of keeping inventory for products ... **NO mention of reduced expenses of keeping the inventory.**
- D. Cost-effective production of small quantities of goods ... **this is a direct quote of the advantage of 'flexible manufacturing' which has led to a growth in the number of new products introduced (lines 8 – 12). CORRECT.**
- E. Increased ability to divide demand among a number of SKU's and to forecast how that demand will be distributed among those SKU's ... **firstly the divided demand is not an ability but a consequence of flexible manufacturing or of increased new products introduced ... secondly this is again an inversion of the cause and effect relationship.**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 5)

Until recently, zoologists believed that all species of phocids (true seals), a pinniped family, use a different maternal strategy than do otariids (fur seals and sea lions), another pinniped family. Mother otariids use a foraging strategy. They acquire moderate energy stores in the form of blubber before arriving at breeding sites and then fast for 5 to 11 days after birth. Throughout the rest of the lactation (milk production) period, which lasts from 4 months to 3 years depending on the species, mother otariids alternately forage at sea, where they replenish their

Line 5

Line 10



fat stores, and nurse their young at breeding sites.

Zoologists had assumed that females of all phocid species, by contrast, use a fasting strategy in which

Line 15 mother phocids, having accumulated large energy stores before they arrive at breeding sites, fast throughout the entire lactation period, which lasts

from 4 to 50 days depending on the species. **However (CONTRAST WORD),** recent studies on harbor seals, a phocid species, found

Line 20 that lactating females commenced foraging approximately 6 days after giving birth and on average made 7 foraging trips during the remainder of their 24-day lactation period.

The maternal strategy evolved by harbor seals **may**

Line 25 have to do with their small size and the large proportion of their fat stores depleted in lactation.

Harbor seals are small compared with other phocid species such as grey seals, northern elephant seals, and hooded seals, all of which are known to fast for

Line 30 the entire lactation period. Studies show that mother seals of these species use respectively 84 percent, 58 percent, and 33 percent of their fat stores during

lactation. By comparison, harbor seals use 80 percent of their fat stores in just the first 19 days of lactation,

Line 35 even though they occasionally feed during this period.

Since such a large proportion of their fat stores is exhausted despite feeding, mother harbor seals clearly cannot support all of lactation using only energy stored before giving birth. Though smaller than many other

Line 40 phocids, harbor seals are similar in size to most

**Comment [RN8]:** The author puts forward evidence displaying behaviour unusual and unaccounted for.

**Comment [RN9]:** The author puts forth his suggestion/hypothesis to account for the above unusual behaviour. This is the **OPINION** of the author and thus must fare in the primary purpose of the passage.

otariids. In addition, there is already some evidence suggesting that the ringed seal, a phocid species that is similar in size to the harbor seal, may also use a maternal foraging strategy.

**Author: OPINION (proposition)**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author first introduces a behaviour, among a particular kind seals, that is unexpected of it given that the rest of the members of the species depict a different kind of behaviour. He then presents his hypothesis to account for the same and spends the rest of the second paragraph explaining why he feels so.

### QUESTIONS

It can be inferred from the passage that the females of all phocid species differ from the females of all otariid species in that the female phocids

- A. have shorter lactation periods ... **confirmed word to word through lines 9 – 10 and lines 17 – 18 ... the 'lactation period' is something that the harbour seals have in common with the rest of the members of their species. CORRECT.**
- B. consume more food during lactation ... **the amount of food consumed by the two species during lactation is not at all compared anywhere in the passage.**
- C. consume a higher proportion of fat stores ... **firstly the comparison of the proportion of fat stores consumed is between ONE KIND of phocids (the harbour seals) and the otariids in general ... secondly the comparison made is during lactation period, since neither the question above nor the answer choice mentions the lactation period the answer choice implies that the phocids consume more in general (whether lactating or not) ... specific to general answer.**
- D. forage for food occasionally during their lactation periods ... **180 degree answer ... phocids (with the exception of harbour seals) fast during their lactation period.**
- E. deplete a smaller percentage of their fat stores during their lactation periods ... **again the comparison of the proportion of fat stores consumed is between ONE KIND of phocids (the harbour seals) and the otariids in general.**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. present evidence that several phocid species use the maternal fasting strategy ... **present evidence is a red flag for a primary purpose answer choice ... moreover the answer choice is a 'no opinion' answer choice ... the word several is also not verified from the passage.**
- B. explain why the maternal strategy typically used by phocids is different from the maternal strategy used by otariids ... **the passage introduces atypical behaviour of ONE KIND of phocids and proposes an explanation ... explain is a 'no opinion' identifier.**

- C. argue that zoologists' current understanding of harbor seals' maternal strategy is incorrect ... **the author is proposing rather than arguing ... negative tone answer.**
- D. describe an unexpected behavior observed in harbor seals and propose an explanation that may account for that behaviour ... **perfect match of what the author does in para 1 and para 2 ... encapsulates the hypothesis made by the author in the passage. CORRECT.**
- E. describe evidence concerning the maternal strategy of the harbor seal and suggest that the harbor seal belongs to the otariid rather than to the phocid family ... **the suggestion encapsulated in the answer choice is wrongly put ... describing an evidence seems absurd ... an evidence on GMAT passages is very rarely explained out in detail.**

According to the passage, until recently zoologists believed which of the following about all phocid mothers?

- A. Their fasting periods after giving birth were typically shorter than those of otariids ... **the zoologists belief is about the difference in the maternal strategy used ... not the fasting periods.**
- B. Their lactation periods were generally as long as those of comparably sized otariids ... **difference in the lactation periods is nowhere disputed in the passage.**
- C. They acquired only moderate energy stores in the form of blubber before arriving at breeding sites ... **the zoologists belief is about the difference in the maternal strategy used.**
- D. They depleted less than a third of their stored body fat during lactation ... **the depletion is mentioned way down in the passage in the second para ... the question concerns the first line of the passage.**
- E. They replenished their fat stores only after their lactation period ended ... **lines 14 – 18 mention the zoologists to have believed that ALL phocids fast throughout the entire lactation period ... perfect match. CORRECT.**

The author of the passage mentions ringed seals most probably in order to

- A. provide an example of a phocid species that fasts throughout its entire lactation period ... **180 degrees answer ... ringed seals' possible behaviour is mentioned to strengthen the need for hypothesizing an explanation for the atypical behaviour of the harbour seals.**
- B. provide an example of a phocid species whose maternal strategy is typical of phocid species ... **180 degrees again ... ringed seals' possible behaviour is atypical of the phocid species.**
- C. provide an example of a phocid species that may deplete an even higher proportion of its fat stores during lactation than harbor seals do ... **No comparison of any sort is ever made between the harbour and the ringed seals.**
- D. support the assertion that harbor seals are smaller than many other phocids ... **the harbour seals being smaller in size than the rest of the members of its species in general is mentioned as a fact and not an assertion ... facts never need any support.**

- E. support the assertion that harbor seals' maternal strategy may be related to their small size ... **the entire para 2, save the first line, is all in support of the proposition/assertion made in the first line ... perfect match ... CORRECT.**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 6)

Prior to 1965 geologists assumed that the two giant rock plates meeting at the San Andreas Fault generate heat through friction as they grind past each other, but in 1965 Henyey found that temperatures in drill

Line 5 holes near the fault were not as elevated as had been expected. Some geologists wondered whether the absence of friction-generated heat could be explained by the kinds of rock composing the fault. Geologists' pre-1965 assumptions concerning heat generated in

Line 10 the fault were based on calculations about common varieties of rocks, such as limestone and granite; but "weaker" materials, such as clays, had already been identified in samples retrieved from the fault zone.

Under normal conditions, rocks composed of clay

Line 15 produce far less friction than do other rock types.

In 1992 Byerlee tested whether these materials would produce friction 10 to 15 kilometers below the Earth's surface. Byerlee found that when clay samples were subjected to the thousands of atmospheres of

Line 20 pressure they would encounter deep inside the Earth, they produced as much friction as was produced by other rock types. The harder rocks push against each

other, the hotter they become; in other words, pressure itself, not only the rocks' properties, affects frictional heating. Geologists therefore wondered whether the friction between the plates was being reduced by pockets of pressurized water within the fault that push the plates away from each other.

Line 25

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author has simply penned down facts. Henyey's findings contradicted the hypothesis that geologists stuck to prior to 1965 → Some geologists tired remoulding the hypothesis to account for the findings → Byerlee shows even the remoulded hypothesis to be at fault → the passage ends with further proposals that might solve the mystery.

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests which of the following regarding Henyey's findings about temperature in the San Andreas Fault?

- A. Scientists have yet to formulate a definitive explanation for Henyey's findings ... **the last line of the passage proves that the mystery (Henyey's findings) remains unsolved ... perfect match ... CORRECT.**
- B. Recent research suggests that Henyey's explanation for the findings should be modified ... **there is NO mention of any recent research ... the only explanation is of the geologists (line 6) ... Henyey attempts no such explanation.**
- C. Henyey's findings had to be recalculated in light of Byerlee's 1992 experiment ... **Byerlee's 1992 experiment bears connection with the remoulded hypothesis ... no doubts have anywhere been cast on the accuracy of the findings.**
- D. Henyey's findings provided support for an assumption long held by geologists ... **180 degrees answer choice ... the findings challenged the underlying assumption if any.**
- E. Scientists have been unable to duplicate Henyey's findings using more recent experimental methods ... **no recent experimental methods mentioned ... no attempts to duplicate mentioned.**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. evaluating a method used to test a particular scientific hypothesis ... **'evaluate' signifies a balanced tone and / or an opinion by the author ... the passage is a purely factual.**
- B. discussing explanations for an unexpected scientific finding ... **'discuss' implies NO OPINION and neutral tone ... the word unexpected is justified from lines 4 – 6 of the passage ... CORRECT.**
- C. examining the assumptions underlying a particular experiment ... **to examine means to analyse in detail with the aim to interpret it or infer something out of it ... the word**

assumptions is not confirmed from the content of the passage ... the passage is about findings rather than about a particular experiment.

- D. questioning the validity of a scientific finding ... 'question' signifies neutral tone and / or opinion by the author ... the passage is purely factual.
- E. presenting evidence to support a recent scientific hypothesis ... 'present evidence' for a primary purpose answer choice is a red flag answer choice ... moreover, the word support makes this choice a 180 degrees answer.

The passage mostly agree that Heney's findings about temperature in the San Andreas Fault made the greatest contribution in that they

- A. revealed an error in previous measurements of temperature in the San Andreas Fault zone ... the error if any was in hypothesizing not measuring ... the word measuring is not confirmed.
- B. indicated the types of clay present in the rocks that form the San Andreas Fault ... the 'presence of clay' down there according to the passage was a hypothesis to account for the lower than expected temperatures measured ... the passage does not (anywhere) confirm that clay is present down there ... 'types of clays' are not even mentioned in the passage.
- C. established the superiority of a particular technique for evaluating data concerning friction in the San Andreas Fault ... superiority of one technique implies more than one technique must be mentioned in the passage ... the passage shares no such information.
- D. suggested that geologists had inaccurately assumed that giant rock plates that meet at the San Andreas Fault generate heat through friction ... the answer choice is a reiteration of lines 1 – 6 of the passage ... each word verified ... CORRECT.
- E. confirmed geologists' assumptions about the amount of friction generated by common varieties of rocks, such as limestone and granite ... 180 degrees answer ... the findings led some to reshape / change the earlier assumption.

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 7)

One proposal for preserving rain forests is to promote the adoption of new agricultural technologies, such as improved plant varieties and use of chemical herbicides, which would increase productivity and slow deforestation by reducing demand for new cropland.

Line 5

Studies have shown that farmers in developing



countries who have achieved certain levels of education, wealth, and security of land tenure are more likely to adopt such technologies. But these studies have focused on villages with limited land that are tied to a market economy rather than on the relatively isolated, self-sufficient communities with ample land characteristic of rain-forest regions. A recent study of the Tawahka people of the Honduran rain forest found that farmers with some formal education were more likely to adopt improved plant varieties but less likely to use chemical herbicides and that those who spoke Spanish (the language of the market economy) were more likely to adopt both technologies. Non-land wealth was also associated with more adoption of both technologies, but availability of uncultivated land reduced the incentive to employ the productivity-enhancing technologies. Researchers also measured land-tenure security: in Tawahka society, kinship ties are a more important indicator of this than are legal property rights, so researchers measured it by a household's duration of residence in its village. They found that longer residence correlated with more adoption of improved plant varieties but less adoption of chemical herbicides.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces a topic – a proposal – it is not his proposal and therefore not his opinion. The proposal forms the build-up to what he wants to discuss later on in the passage → the studies (previous and the recent one) that have been done in relation to

the adoption of the proposal. The rest of the passage is dedicated to what the studies (previous and recent) have to say.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. evaluate the likelihood that a particular proposal, if implemented, would ultimately succeed in achieving its intended result ... **'evaluate' signifies a balanced tone and / or an opinion by the author ... the passage has a neutral tone ... the passage does not say whether the proposal will have its intended results.**
- B. question the assumption that certain technological innovations are the **most (Avoid Superlatives)** effective means of realizing a particular environmental objective ... **'question' signifies a negative tone ... the word innovations is not verified.**
- C. discuss the progress of efforts to encourage a particular traditional society to adopt certain modern agricultural methods ... **the traditional society mentioned had the recent study done on it ... there is no mention of any 'efforts to encourage' or progress of the same ... the passage simply talks of factors affecting the degree of applicability of the proposal.**
- D. present the results of new research suggesting that previous findings concerning one set of conditions may not be generalizable to another set of conditions ... **'new research' may be directly mapped to 'recent study' (line 14) and 'previous findings ... conditions' may be directly mapped to studies mentioned in line 10 ... perfect match ... CORRECT.**
- E. weigh the relative importance of three factors in determining whether a particular strategy will be successful ... **mathematical answer ... the passage is not concerned with comparison of degree ... 'strategy will be successful' implies a predictive framework ... the passage has no opinion.**

According to the passage, the proposal mentioned in line 1 is aimed at preserving rain forests by encouraging farmers in rain-forest regions to do each of the following EXCEPT

- A. adopt new agricultural technologies ... **confirmed by line 1.**
- B. grow improved plant varieties ... **confirmed by line 3.**
- C. decrease their use of chemical herbicides ... **180 degrees answer ... therefore CORRECT.**
- D. increase their productivity ... **confirmed by line 4.**
- E. reduce their need to clear new land for cultivation ... **confirmed by line 5.**

The passage suggests that in the study mentioned in the highlighted text the method for gathering information about security of land tenure reflects which of the following pairs of assumptions about Tawahka society?

- A. The security of a household's land tenure depends on the strength of that household's kinship ties, and the duration of a household's residence in its village is an indication of the strength of that household's kinship ties ... **in lines 24 – 28 ... 'kinship ties are a more important indicator of this than are legal property rights' → presumes the first**



assumption ... 'so researchers measured it by a household's duration of residence in its village' → presumes the second assumption ... **CORRECT**

- B. The ample availability of land makes security of land tenure unimportant, and the lack of a need for secure land tenure has made the concept of legal property rights unnecessary ... **ample availability of land is mentioned in the upper part of the passage while discussing older studies and has no link with security of land tenure ... secure land tenure and legal property rights DO NOT share a cause and effect relationship in the passage.**
- C. The strength of a household's kinship ties is a more reliable indicator of that household's receptivity to new agricultural technologies than is its quantity of non-land wealth, and the duration of a household's residence in its village is a more reliable indicator of that household's security of land tenure than is the strength of its kinship ties ... **non-land wealth is not compared with kinship ties anywhere in the passage ... land tenure security is not compared with strength of kinship ties in the passage ... rather it is shown to have a dependency relationship.**
- D. Security of land tenure based on kinship ties tends to make farmers more receptive to the use of improved plant varieties, and security of land tenure based on long duration of residence in a village tends to make farmers more receptive to the use of chemical herbicides ... **security of land tenure is never shown to be based on a factor ... the passage hints that kinship ties was thought to be a more relevant determining factor in measuring the land tenure security.**
- E. A household is more likely to be receptive to the concept of land tenure based on legal property rights if it has easy access to uncultivated land, and a household is more likely to uphold the tradition of land tenure based on kinship ties if it possesses a significant degree of non-land wealth ... **again security of land tenure is never shown to have any sort of basis.**

The findings of the study mentioned in the highlighted text, if valid for rain-forest regions in general, suggest that which of the following is an obstacle most likely to be faced by those wishing to promote rain-forest preservation by implementing the proposal mentioned in line 1?

- A. Lack of legal property rights tends to discourage local farmers from investing the time and resources required to successfully implement new agricultural technologies ... **researchers never measured legal property rights because kinship ties are a more important indicator of land tenure security ... therefore any correlation with legal property rights is a wrong answer.**
- B. The ability to evaluate the wider economic ramifications of adopting new agricultural technologies depends on a relatively high level of formal education ... **'economic ramifications of adopting new agricultural technologies' is not mentioned anywhere in the passage.**
- C. Isolation from the market economy tends to restrict local farmers' access to new agricultural technologies that could help them to increase their productivity ... **access to new technology is not mentioned as a limiting factor rather not even as a factor that the study sought to look into ... therefore not confirmed.**

- D. Ready availability of uncultivated land tends to decrease local farmers' incentive to adopt new agricultural technologies that would reduce their need to clear new land for cultivation ... **a direct re-iteration of lines 21 – 23 ... accurate match ... CORRECT.**
- E. Traditions of self-sufficiency and reliance on kinship ties tend to diminish local farmers' receptivity to new agricultural technologies introduced by people from outside the local community ... **'self-sufficiency and reliance on kinship ties' are nowhere mentioned in the passage and are thus not verified ... 'people from ... community' is also something that can't be justified from the passage.**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 8)

(This passage was excerpted from material published in 1993.)

Like many other industries, the travel industry is under increasing pressure to expand globally in order to keep pace with its corporate customers, who have globalized their operations in response to market pressure, competitor actions, and changing supplier relations. But it is difficult for service organizations to globalize. Global expansion through acquisition is usually expensive, and expansion through internal growth is time-consuming and sometimes impossible

in markets that are not actively growing. Some service industry companies, in fact, regard these traditional routes to global expansion as inappropriate for service industries because of their special need to preserve local responsiveness through local presence and

expertise. One travel agency has eschewed the traditional route altogether. A survivor of the changes that swept the travel industry as a result of the deregulation of the airlines in 1978—changes that

included dramatic growth in the corporate demand for  
 Line 20 travel services, as well as extensive restructuring and  
 consolidation within the travel industry—this agency  
 adopted a unique structure for globalization. Rather  
 than expand by attempting to develop its own offices  
 abroad, which would require the development of local  
 Line 25 travel management expertise sufficient to capture  
 foreign markets, the company solved its globalization  
 dilemma effectively by forging alliances with the best  
 foreign partners it could find. The resulting cooperative  
 alliance of independent agencies now comprises 32  
 Line 30 partners spanning 37 countries.

**Author:** NO OPINION (descriptive passage)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author after stating the relative (as compared with other organizations) difficulty faced by service organizations, brings forth the unique strategy adopted by one service agency to successfully globalize.

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that one of the effects of the deregulation of the airlines was

- A. a decline in the services available to non-commercial travellers ... **non-commercial travellers is not a part of the passage and thus not verified ... 'decline in services' is not inferable.**
- B. a decrease in the size of the corporate travel market ... **the passage makes no comment on changes (if any) in the travel market size.**
- C. a sharp increase in the number of cooperative alliances among travel agencies ... **sharp increase is a bit on the extreme side ... the dramatic growth mentioned in line 19 is of the demand for travel services ... the cooperative alliance stated in the passage pertains to ONE single agency ... it is unwarranted to conclude that all agencies followed suit.**
- D. increased competition in a number of different service industries ... **the deregulation is linked with the travel industry ... this answer choice goes general to say competition (also something NOT mentioned) increased in a number of service industries ... specific to general error.**
- E. the merging of some companies within the travel industry ... **lines 26 – 29 confirm that this is exactly what happened ... it is by way of mergers and co-operative alliances that the ONE agency survived ... CORRECT.**

The author discusses a particular travel agency in the passage most likely in order to (purpose question)

- A. provide evidence of the pressures on the travel industry to globalize ... **the author's primary purpose in the passage is to bring to light the scenario adopted by the ONE travel agency not to prove that there indeed were pressures ... the pressures are mentioned only as a factor leading to the need to globalize.**
- B. demonstrate the limitations of the traditional routes to global expansion ... **to demonstrate means to illustrate with examples ... the limitations of the traditional route to globalization are never illustrated upon in the passage.**
- C. illustrate an unusual approach to globalizing a service organization ... **the answer matches exactly with what lines 19 – 20 have to say ... CORRECT.**
- D. highlight the difficulties confronting travel agencies that attempt to globalize ... **the difficulties confronting the travel agency are mentioned in the passage, however, the author never highlights them.**
- E. underscore the differences between the service industry and other industries ... **services industries are never compared with the rest of the industries in the passage ... they're only both mentioned to be under the pressure to globalize ... the word differences is not verified.**

According to the passage, which of the following is true of the traditional routes to global expansion?

- A. They have been supplanted in **most (Avoid Superlatives)** service industries by alternative routes ... **the only alternative route mentioned is the one in the example in the end ... routes is not verified.**
- B. They are less attractive to travel agencies since deregulation of the airlines ... **the passage never mentions anything about the appeal having gone down after the deregulation happened**
- C. They may represent the **most (Avoid Superlatives)** cost-effective means for a travel agency to globalize ... **traditional routes were something service industries (including the travel) were avoiding ... 180 degrees answer.**
- D. They may be unsuitable for service agencies that are attempting to globalize ... **this is an exact word to word match of what is said in lines 10 – 15 ... CORRECT.**
- E. They are **most (Avoid Superlatives)** likely to succeed in markets that are not actively growing ... **markets that are not actively growing make it impossible for internal growth (one of the traditional routes) – lines 7 – 10 ... 180 degrees answer.**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 9)

Firms traditionally claim that they downsize (i.e., make

permanent personnel cuts) for economic reasons, laying off supposedly unnecessary staff in an attempt to become more efficient and competitive.

Line 5 Organization theory would explain this reasoning as an example of the “economic rationality” that it assumes underlies all organizational activities. There is evidence that firms believe they are behaving rationally whenever they downsize; **yet (CONTRAST WORD)** recent research has

Line 10 shown that the actual economic effects of downsizing are often negative for firms. Thus, organization theory cannot adequately explain downsizing; non-economic factors **must** also be considered. One such factor is the

Line 15 evolution of downsizing into a powerful business myth: managers simply believe that downsizing is efficacious.

Moreover, downsizing nowadays is greeted favourably by the business press; the press often refers to soaring stock prices of downsizing firms (even though research shows that stocks usually rise only briefly

Line 20 after downsizing and then suffer a prolonged decline). Once viewed as a sign of desperation,

downsizing is now viewed as a signal that firms are serious about competing in the global marketplace;

such signals are received positively by key actors—

Line 25 financial analysts, consultants, shareholders—who supply firms with vital organizing resources. Thus, even if downsizers do not become economically more efficient, downsizing’s mythic properties give them added prestige in the business community, enhancing

Line 30 their survival prospects.

**Comment [RN10]: Author’s OPINION**  
... In the remaining part of the passage the author states some noneconomic factors responsible for downsizing.

**Comment [RN11]: Noneconomic reason**

**Comment [RN12]: ALTERNATIVE reason for downsizing ... noneconomic reason.**

**Comment [RN13]: ALTERNATIVE reason for downsizing ... noneconomic reason.**

**Comment [RN14]: Noneconomic reason.**

**Author:** OPINION (suggestive in nature)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author claims that a particular theory is inadequate and thus requires taking into account certain other examples to explain a particular corporate behaviour.

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, the “key actors” (line 24) view a firm’s downsizing activities as an indication of the firm’s

- A. troubled financial condition ... line 24 states the key actors view the downsizing activity positively ... 180 degrees answer.
- B. inability to develop effective long-term strategies ... implies negative view of the key actors ... 180 degrees again ... strategies are not mentioned in the passage ... not verified.
- C. inability to retain vital organizational resources ... implies negative view of the key actors ... 180 degrees ... there is no word on the retaining of resources and it is thus not verified.
- D. desire to boost its stock price ... although a positive view of the actors regarding the downsizing behaviour, stock prices are mentioned in line 18 and are connected with the press rather than the key actors ... soaring stock prices is something the press promotes, however, we’re still unsure based on the content of the passage whether the key actors view the downsizing as an attempt to boost stock prices ... the two are unrelated in the passage.
- E. desire to become more competitive ... a positive view of the actors regarding the downsizing behaviour ... lines 22 – 23 confirm that actors see this as a firm’s desire to become more competitive ... CORRECT.

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. criticize firms for engaging in the practice of downsizing ... negative tone
- B. analyze the negative economic impact of downsizing on firms ... the opinion and the second paragraph are all about ALTERNATIVE reasons for downsizing (BEFORE), not negative impact (AFTER downsizing)
- C. offer an alternative to a traditional explanation for the occurrence of downsizing ... this is exactly what the author does in the passage after stating his opinion ... CORRECT
- D. chronicle how perceptions of downsizing have changed over time ... the author is not talking about any time period at all ... the passage is about NOW ... chronology based answer – must AVOID
- E. provide evidence (red flag – must AVOID) disputing the prevalence of downsizing ... the author is saying downsizing is quite popular (180 degrees)



The passage suggests which of the following about the claim that a firm will become more efficient and competitive by downsizing?

- A. Few firms actually believe this claim to be true ... **a firm's belief in the claim is never discussed or mentioned in the passage ... 'few firms' is not confirmed by the passage**
- B. Fewer firms have been making this claim in recent years ... **there is no hint in the passage to indicate the number of firms making this claim ... the word fewer is not verified**
- C. This claim contradicts the basic assumption of organization theory ... **the basic assumption of the theory says that economic motive (efficiency and competitiveness) underlies every organizational activity ... 180 degrees**
- D. This claim is called into question by certain recent research ... **this answer choice rephrases lines 9 – 11 ... negative economic effects implies the claim is called into question ... CORRECT**
- E. This claim is often treated with scepticism by the business press ... **the relation of business press with the claim is never established in the passage ... the press is said to promote the assertion that stocks of downsizing firms will soar ... thereby implicitly implying that the firms are indeed becoming more efficient and competitive ... 180 degrees answer**

The passage suggests that downsizing's mythic properties can be beneficial to a downsizing firm because these properties

- A. allow the firm to achieve **significant (AVOID Extremes)** operating efficiencies ... **mythic properties mentioned are said to cover up for the negative economic effects of downsizing by giving them added prestige for survival ... the connection between mythic properties and ability to achieve efficiencies has not been made in the passage**
- B. provide the firm with access to important organizing resources ... **mythic properties → downsizing firms now being perceived by key actors as serious about competing in the global market ... provide the firm with a supply of vital organizing resources ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- C. encourage a long-term increase in the firm's stock price ... **the increase (that too short-term) in stock price is linked with press promotion in the passage NOT with mythic properties ... a long-term increase is never mentioned in the passage**
- D. make the firm less reliant on external figures such as financial analysts and consultants ... **dependence of the degree of reliance on external figures of the downsizing firms is never mentioned in the passage**
- E. discourage the firm's competitors from entering the global marketplace ... **all benefits mentioned in the passage pertain to the firm directly ... the effects of the mythic properties are never stated to affect the firm's competitors directly ... effect on competitors is not mentioned in the passage and hence is not verified**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 10)

In 1675, Louis XIV established the Parisian seamstresses' guild, the first independent all-female guild created in over 200 years. Guild members could make and sell women's and children's clothing, but were prohibited from producing men's clothing or dresses for court women. Tailors resented the ascension of seamstresses to guild status; seamstresses, meanwhile, were impatient with the remaining restrictions on their right to clothe women.

The conflict between the guilds was not purely economic, **however** (CONTRAST WORD). A 1675 police report indicated that since so many seamstresses were already working illegally, the tailors were unlikely to suffer additional economic damage because of the seamstresses' incorporation. Moreover, guild membership held very different meanings for tailors and seamstresses. To the tailors, their status as guild members overlapped with their role as heads of household, and entitled them to employ as seamstresses female family

members who did not marry outside the trade. The seamstresses, however, viewed guild membership as a mark of independence from the patriarchal family. Their guild was composed not of family units but of individual women who enjoyed unusual legal and

economic privileges. At the conflict's center was the issue of whether tailors' female relatives should be identified as family members protected by the tailors'

**Comment [RN15]:** Implies more reasons for the conflict to follow ...

**Comment [RN16]:** REASON central to the conflict ...



guild or as individuals under the jurisdiction of the seamstresses' guild.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author is just describing the reasons / origins of the conflict between the tailors' guild and seamstresses' guild.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **outline (red flag – must AVOID)** a scholarly debate over the impact of the Parisian seamstresses' guild ... **nobody's opinion is given ... no scholar is mentioned.**
- B. summarize sources of conflict between the newly created Parisian seamstresses' guild and the tailors' guild ... **Exactly what the passage attempts to do ... neutral, no opinion answer choice ... CORRECT**
- C. describe opposing views concerning the origins of the Parisian seamstresses' guild ... **nobody's opinion is given ... no scholar is mentioned. Also, the passage is not about the origin of the guild but the origin of the conflict.**
- D. explore the underlying reasons for establishing an exclusively female guild in seventeenth-century Paris ... **nothing is given as to WHY the guild was created.**
- E. correct a misconception about changes in seamstresses' economic status that took place in Paris in the late seventeenth century ... **to correct a misconception, there must be a minimum of two opinions.**

According to the passage, one source of dissatisfaction for Parisian seamstresses after the establishment of the seamstresses' guild was that

- A. seamstresses were not allowed to make and sell clothing for all women ... **lines 8 – 9 confirm this as one source of dissatisfaction among the seamstresses ... something they were anxious to get rid of ... CORRECT**
- B. tailors continued to have the exclusive legal right to clothe men .. **although the passage says that the seamstresses' of the guild were prohibited from making men's clothing, nowhere does the passage hint that this was something that bothered them leaving them with a sense of dissatisfaction**
- C. seamstresses who were relatives of tailors were prevented from becoming members of the seamstresses' guild ... **the identification of seamstresses who were relatives of tailors with one of the two guilds was at the center of the conflict ... however, the passage never explicitly says that these seamstresses were purposely kept from joining the seamstresses' guild**
- D. rivalry between individual seamstresses increased, thus hindering their ability to compete with the tailors for business ... **no such scenario is mentioned in the passage**

- E. seamstresses were not allowed to accept male tailors as members of the guild ...  
**acceptance of male tailors is not talked of ... let alone this being a source of dissatisfaction among the seamstresses**

It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following was true of seamstresses employed by relatives who were members of the tailors' guild?

- A. They were instrumental in convincing Louis XIV to establish the seamstresses' guild ...  
**no-one's said to have influenced the king in the passage**
- B. They were rarely allowed to assist master tailors in the production of men's clothing ...  
**the mention of men's clothing is limited to the fact that the seamstresses of the seamstresses' guild were not allowed to make them ... seamstresses assisting tailors is not talked about anywhere**
- C. They were considered by some tailors to be a threat to the tailors' monopoly ... **lines 15 – 20 confirm that economically the seamstresses never had been and never were a threat to the tailors ... 180 degrees**
- D. They did not enjoy the same economic and legal privileges that members of the seamstresses' guild enjoyed ... **lines 23 – 25 confirm that economic and legal privileges were something that the seamstresses of only the seamstresses' guild enjoyed, not of the tailor's guild ... CORRECT match**
- E. They felt their status as working women gave them a certain degree of independence from the patriarchal family ... **this was true of the seamstresses of the seamstresses' guild ... a privilege not shared by the seamstresses of the tailor's guild ... 180 degrees**

The author mentions the seamstresses' view of guild membership as a "mark of independence from the patriarchal family" primarily in order to (purpose question)

- A. emphasize that the establishment of the seamstresses' guild had implications that were not solely economic ... **notice how line 10 mentions that the conflict was purely economic ... the word 'moreover' in line 15 provides further evidence to substantiate the claim in line 10 ... the further evidence mentions the different meaning the membership held for the two members ... thus the view is seen as substantiating the claim that the implications of the establishment of the guild were not solely economic ... exact match ... CORRECT**
- B. illustrate the conflict that existed between tailors and their female family members over membership in the tailors' guild ... **the conflict mentioned is between the two separate guilds not within the tailor's guild ... no such conflict is mentioned**
- C. imply that the establishment of the seamstresses' guild ushered in a period of increased economic and social freedom for women in France ... **1675 is not confirmed by the passage to be a period of increased economic and social freedom for women in France**
- D. provide an explanation for the **dramatic (extreme - AVOID)** increase in the number of women working as seamstresses after 1675 ... **the dramatic increase or even any increase for that matter is not confirmed by the passage ... the passage deals with what happened in 1675 not post 1675**

- E. indicate that members of the seamstresses' guild were financially more successful than were tailors' female relatives protected by the tailors' guild ... **the passage mentions the members of the seamstresses' guild to enjoy economic privileges ... economic privileges is not necessarily synonymous with financial success ... moreover the entire intent of the mentioning the view is NON – ECONOMIC ... 180 degrees**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 11)

Anthropologists studying the Hopi people of the southwestern United States often characterize Hopi society between 1680 and 1880 as surprisingly stable, considering that it was a period of diminution in population and pressure from contact with outside groups, factors that might be expected to cause significant changes in Hopi social arrangements.

The Hopis' retention of their distinctive socio-cultural system has been attributed to the Hopi religious elite's determined efforts to preserve their religion and way of life, and also to a geographical isolation greater than that of many other Native American groups, an isolation that limited both cultural contact and exposure to European diseases. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** equally important

to Hopi cultural persistence **may** have been an inherent flexibility in their social system that **may** have allowed preservation of traditions even as the Hopis accommodated themselves to change (AUTHOR'S OPINION). For example, the system of matrilineal clans was maintained throughout this period, even though some clans merged to form larger groups while others divided into

**Comment [RN17]:** This means that the explanation given above is PARTIAL and the author is giving more reasons as to WHY something happened

smaller descent groups. Furthermore, although traditionally members of particular Hopi clans appear to have exclusively controlled particular ceremonies, a

Line 25 clan's control of a ceremony might shift to another clan if the first became too small to manage the responsibility. Village leadership positions traditionally restricted to members of one clan might be similarly extended to members of other clans, and women

Line 30 might assume such positions under certain unusual conditions.

**Author:** OPINION (Suggestive in nature)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces known reasons (highlighted in yellow) for a surprising turn out at some point in the past and suggests (OPINION) additional and equally important reasons for the turnout – reasons that he believes carry as much weight as the ones already known

### QUESTIONS

The author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about the explanation outlined in the highlighted text?

- A. It fails to take into account the effect of geographical circumstances on Hopi culture ... **negative tone answer ... fails is too strong for something that is partial in nature ... moreover, the highlighted text does take geographical isolation into consideration ... 180 degrees**
- B. It correctly emphasizes the role of the religious elite in maintaining the system of matrilineal clans ... **the role of religious elite has NO connection with the maintenance of matrilineal clans ... the role of the religious elite is limited to: determined efforts to preserve religion and way of life – lines 9 – 11**
- C. It represents a misreading of Hopi culture because it fails to take into account the actual differences that existed among the various Hopi clans ... **misreading and fails imply too strong a negative tone for something that is only PARTIAL in nature**
- D. It underestimates the effect on Hopi cultural development of contact with other cultural groups ... **underestimates might again be seen as a negative tone ... contact with cultural groups is mentioned way up in the passage as one of the many pressures that threatened the HOPI's socio-cultural stability between 1680 and 1880 ... its effect is never analysed**

- E. It is correct but may be insufficient in itself to explain Hopi socio-cultural persistence ... **this is exactly what he indirectly / implicitly says in his opinion that follows the highlighted text ... perfect word to word match ... CORRECT**

**Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the Hopis' geographic situation between 1680 and 1880?**

- A. It prevented the Hopis from experiencing a diminution in population ... **diminution (lines 4 – 5) in passage is mentioned as one of the factors because of which the socio-cultural stability of the HOPI society seems surprising ... however, geographic isolation is never mentioned to block the diminution in population**
- B. It helped to promote flexibility within their social system ... **the flexibility mentioned in the passage (line 16) is said to be inherent not something that is promoted via an external factor – geographic situation**
- C. It limited but did not eliminate contact with other cultural groups ... **lines 11 – 14 accurately confirm this answer choice ... contact with other groups was limited but never completely severed ... CORRECT**
- D. It reinforced the religious elite's determination to resist cultural change ... **no such connection is established in the passage**
- E. It tended to limit contact between certain Hopi clans ... **the internal contact among the HOPI society has not been commented upon in the passage ... only the contact of the HOPI society with the outside cultural groups**

**The passage is primarily concerned with**

- A. reassessing a phenomenon in light of new findings ... **the author is supplying additional reasons as to why the Hopi remained stable. There are no new findings**
- B. assessing the relative importance of two factors underlying a phenomenon ... **the author is supplying additional reasons as to why the Hopi remained stable. There is nothing like MORE important or LESS important in this passage**
- C. examining the assumptions underlying an interpretation of a phenomenon ... **the author is supplying additional reasons as to why the Hopi remained stable. This option doesn't capture the additional explanation put forth by the author**
- D. expanding on an explanation of a phenomenon ... **this is absolutely direct ... CORRECT**
- E. contrasting two methods for evaluating a phenomenon ... **the author is supplying additional reasons as to why the Hopi remained stable. There is nothing to do with the METHODS. Also, there is no evaluation**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 12)

A small number of the forest species of lepidoptera

(moths and butterflies, which exist as caterpillars during most of their life cycle) exhibit regularly recurring patterns of population growth and decline—

Line 5 such fluctuations in population are known as population cycles. Although many different variables influence population levels, a regular pattern such as a population cycle seems to imply a dominant, driving force. Identification of that driving force, however, has

Line 10 proved surprisingly elusive despite considerable research. The common approach of studying causes of population cycles by measuring the mortality caused by different agents, such as predatory birds or

Line 15 parasites, has been unproductive in the case of lepidoptera. Moreover, population ecologists' attempts to alter cycles by changing the caterpillars' habitat and by reducing caterpillar populations have not succeeded. In short, the evidence implies that these

insect populations, if not self-regulating, may at least be regulated by an agent more intimately connected with the insect than are predatory birds or parasites.

Line 20 Recent work suggests that this agent may be a virus.

For many years, viral disease had been reported in declining populations of caterpillars, but population

Line 25 ecologists had usually considered viral disease to have contributed to the decline once it was underway rather than to have initiated it. The recent work has been made possible by new techniques of molecular biology that allow viral DNA to be detected at low

Line 30 concentrations in the environment. Nuclear polyhedrosis viruses are hypothesized to be the driving force behind population cycles in lepidoptera in part

Line 35 because the viruses themselves follow an infectious cycle in which, if protected from direct sun light, they may remain virulent for many years in the environment, embedded in durable crystals of polyhedrin protein. Once ingested by a caterpillar, the crystals dissolve, releasing the virus to infect the insect's cells. Late in the course of the infection, millions of new virus particles are formed and enclosed in polyhedrin crystals. These crystals re-enter the environment after the insect dies and decomposes, thus becoming available to infect other caterpillars.

Line 45 One of the attractions of this hypothesis is its broad applicability. Remarkably, despite significant differences in habitat and behavior, many species of lepidoptera have population cycles of similar length, between eight and eleven years. Nuclear polyhedrosis viral infection is one factor these disparate species share.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents some recent hypothesis for population cycles in Lepidoptera ... that the cycles are caused by a VIRUS ... the passage throughout comes off as a reporting passage ... purely factual

**Comment [RN18]:** The author presents some recent hypothesis here ... this is the MAIN POINT of the passage. Everything before this portion is just a build up to this part.

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's conclusion (the population regulating factor is more intimately connected to the species) in the highlighted text?

- A. New research reveals that the number of species of birds and parasites that prey on lepidoptera has dropped significantly in recent years ... lines 11 – 15 confirm that all the external agents that could possibly influence / alter the cycle had been tried ... predatory birds and parasites are mentioned as two of the many examples tried out ... the fall in the number of species of these two does not confirm that the agent is more intimately connected ... this info is quite irrelevant really



- B. New experiments in which the habitats of lepidoptera are altered in previously untried ways result in the shortening of lepidoptera population cycles ... **lines 15 – 18 suggest that habitat changes also were a dead end ... however the lines do not explicitly mention that ALL possible habitat changes had been tested out (thus making it an assumption underlying the author's argument) ... this option negates that very assumption ... thereby weakening it ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- C. Recent experiments have revealed that the nuclear polyhedrosis virus is present in a number of predators and parasites of Lepidoptera ... **this has no bearing on the fact that the regulating factor is more intimately connected rather than being external**
- D. Differences among the habitats of lepidoptera species make it difficult to assess the effects of weather on lepidoptera population cycles ... **note how the option says 'make it difficult' ... keeping open the possibility that effects can still be assessed ... and that weather like other external agents may have no effect at all ... the option is thus too vague to substantially weaken the argument**
- E. Viral disease is typically observed in a large proportion of the Lepidoptera population ... **this option too is unclear on whether the viral disease (a more intimately connected agent) actually does have an effect on the population cycle ... neither strengthens nor weakens**

It can be inferred from the passage that the mortality caused by agents such as predatory birds or parasites was measured in an attempt to (purpose question)

- A. develop an explanation for the existence of lepidoptera population cycles ... **the entire passage presents efforts aimed at hypothesizing an explanation for the intriguingly regular population cycle ... the mortality measurement (lines 11 – 15) was a part of this effort ... CORRECT**
- B. identify behavioral factors in lepidoptera that affect survival rates ... **behavioural factors implies factors borne out of a habit that is common among all Lepidoptera ... the measurement was an attempt to study the effect of different agents on the species (lines 11 – 15) rather than an attempt to find out habitual factors responsible**
- C. identify possible methods for controlling lepidoptera population growth ... **controlling the 'population growth' was never an aim of the researchers ... they're everywhere looking for a possible explanation of something that already exists**
- D. provide evidence that lepidoptera populations are self-regulating ... **the results led them in the direction that the cycle might be either self-regulating or driven by a more intimately connected agent ... the cycles being self-regulating was a possibility thought out by the researchers and not something they had set out to prove**
- E. determine the life stages of lepidoptera at which mortality rates are highest ... **any sort of life stages of the Lepidoptera are never mentioned in the passage**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. describe the development of new techniques that may help to determine the driving force behind population cycles in Lepidoptera ... **the driving force is already suggested to be a virus ... so this answer is clearly not a summary of the blue highlighted BOLD portion.**



- B. **present evidence (red flag - AVOID)** that refutes a particular theory about the driving force behind population cycles in lepidoptera ... **look at the words "MAY be a virus." (line 22) ... so no refuting here. This answer is clearly not a summary of the blue highlighted BOLD portion.**
- C. present a hypothesis about the driving force behind population cycles in Lepidoptera ... **exactly the right match. CORRECT**
- D. describe the fluctuating patterns of population cycles in Lepidoptera ... **it is not about the pattern but the reason behind that pattern**
- E. **question (negative tone)** the idea that a single driving force is behind population cycles in Lepidoptera ... **the word QUESTION signals an opinion. The author doesn't have any opinion.**

**According to the passage, before the discovery of new techniques for detecting viral DNA, population ecologists believed that viral diseases**

- A. were not widely prevalent among insect populations generally ... **not mentioned in the passage ... the diseases' prevalence among insect populations did not suddenly become evident once the new techniques were discovered**
- B. affected only the caterpillar life stage of Lepidoptera ... **no such belief (pertaining to a particular life stage of the lepidoptera) is ever mentioned**
- C. were the driving force behind lepidoptera population cycles ... **this is something that was hypothesized thanks to the discovery of the new techniques for detecting viral DNA**
- D. attacked already declining caterpillar populations ... **this is exactly what lines 23 -27 of the passage narrate ... exact match ... CORRECT**
- E. infected birds and parasites that prey on various species of Lepidoptera ... **no such belief is ever mentioned in the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 13)

Although many lines of evidence indicate that birds evolved from ground-dwelling theropod dinosaurs, some scientists remain **unconvinced**. They argue that theropods appeared too late to have given rise to birds, noting that Archaeopteryx lithographica—the oldest known bird—appears in the fossil record about 150 million years ago, whereas the fossil remains of

Line 5

**Comment [RN19]:** Minority Scientists' OPINION ...

various nonavian maniraptor theropods—the closest known relatives of birds—date only to about 115

Line 10 million years ago. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** investigators have now uncovered bones that evidently belong to nonavian maniraptors dating to the time of Archaeopteryx. In any case, failure to find fossils of a predicted kind does not rule out their existence in an undiscovered deposit.

Line 15 Skeptics also argue that the fused clavicles (the “wishbone”) of birds differ from the unfused clavicles of theropods. This objection was reasonable when only early theropod clavicles had been discovered, but fossilized theropod clavicles that look just like the

Line 20 wishbone of Archaeopteryx have now been unearthed. Finally, some scientists argue that the complex lungs of birds could not have evolved from theropod lungs, an assertion that cannot be supported or falsified at the moment, because no fossil lungs are preserved in

Line 25 the paleontological record.

**Comment [RN20]:** AUTHOR'S response to the 'unconvinced' minority scientists' BASIS of their opinion ...

**Comment [RN21]:** AUTHOR'S response to the 'unconvinced' minority scientists' BASIS of their opinion ...

**Comment [RN22]:** AUTHOR'S response to the 'unconvinced' minority scientists' BASIS of their opinion ...

### **Author: NO OPINION**

The author seems to reject the opinion of the minority of scientists by saying that some scientists remain unconvinced and later giving his an almost confirmed dismissal of the hypothesis put forward by the minority of scientists.

### **Tone: NEGATIVE (implied criticism)**

This passage is implied criticism only ... No suggestion.

## **QUESTIONS**

**The primary purpose of the passage is to**

- A. compare the development of two hypotheses concerning the evolutionary origin of birds ... **the author is not talking about how the two opinions evolved (developed). Also, the author is not comparing anything. Compare signifies a neutral tone.**
- B. suggest revisions to the standard theory of the evolutionary history of birds ... **the author implicitly criticizes but doesn't suggest anything.**

- C. evaluate the usefulness of fossil evidence in determining the evolutionary history of birds ... **'evaluate' signifies a balanced tone and / or opinion by the author. This is a negative tone passage.**
- D. challenge the theory that birds evolved from ground-dwelling theropod dinosaurs ... **the author is seemingly defending / supporting the theory that birds evolved from ground-dwelling theropod dinosaurs - 180 DEGREES.**
- E. **respond (implied criticism of the author) to criticisms** of the theory that birds evolved from ground-dwelling theropod dinosaurs ... **check the three blue highlighted portions in the passage. Exactly the answer we were looking for. CORRECT**

In the context of the passage, the phrase "fossils of a predicted kind" (line 13) most likely refers to which of the following?

- A. Theropod fossils with fused clavicles ... **fused clavicles are part of the minority scientists' second contention in the passage ... 'fossils of a predicted kind' are part of the first ... clear mismatch**
- B. Theropod fossils that are similar in structure to Archaeopteryx fossils ... **no such fossils are mentioned anywhere in the passage**
- C. Theropod fossils dating back more than 150 million years ... **read the first blue highlighted portion ... clear match ... CORRECT**
- D. Fossils indicating the structure of theropod lungs ... **the passage in lines 23 – 25 states that fossilised lungs, from the period in discussion, do not exist ... lungs are a part of the third contention**
- E. Fossils indicating the structure of Archaeopteryx lungs ... **the passage in lines 23 – 25 states that fossilised lungs, from the period in discussion, do not exist ... lungs are a part of the third contention**

Which of the following is mentioned in the passage as an argument made by scientists (minority) who are unconvinced that birds evolved from theropod dinosaurs?

- A. There are no known theropod dinosaur fossils dating from a period after the time of Archaeopteryx ... **'period after' ... lines 5 – 10 confirm that the minority scientists say something completely opposite of this answer option ... 180 degrees**
- B. There are no known theropod dinosaur fossils that indicate the structure of those dinosaurs' lungs ... **this is an assertion advanced by the author to underscore the uncertainty if the minority scientists' claim in their last contention in the passage**
- C. Theropod dinosaurs appear in the fossil record about 150 million years ago ... **lines 5 – 10 confirm that argument made by the scientists claimed that the Archaeopteryx (oldest known bird) had fossil records dating back to 150 million years ago**
- D. Theropod dinosaurs did not have fused clavicles ... **a 100% accurate reiteration of lines 15 – 17 ... the minority scientists' second contention in the passage ... CORRECT**
- E. Theropod dinosaurs had certain bones that look just like those of Archaeopteryx ... **any mention of any bones in the passage is by the author to counter the minority scientists' first contention ... the scientists' are nowhere seen to refer to any bones**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 14)

The term “episodic memory” was introduced by Tulving to refer to what he considered a uniquely human capacity—the ability to recollect specific past events, to travel back into the past in one’s own mind—as distinct from the capacity simply to use information acquired through past experiences. Subsequently, Clayton et al. developed criteria to test for episodic memory in animals. According to these criteria, episodic memories are not of individual bits of

information; they involve multiple components of a single event “bound” together. Clayton sought to examine evidence of scrub jays’ accurate memory of “what,” “where,” and “when” information and their binding of this information. In the wild, these birds store food for retrieval later during periods of food scarcity. Clayton’s **experiment** required jays to remember the type, location, and freshness of stored food based on a unique learning event. Crickets were stored in one location and peanuts in another. Jays

prefer crickets, but crickets degrade more quickly. Clayton’s birds switched their preference from crickets to peanuts once the food had been stored for a certain length of time, showing that they retain information about the what, the where, and the when. **Such**

**experiments cannot, however, reveal whether the birds were re-experiencing the past when retrieving the information.** Clayton acknowledged this by using

**Comment [RN23]:** This might seem like the author’s opinion but it is not. The author is simply putting forth a fact – saying that the experiment has a particular weakness / limitation – the experimenter also acknowledged this weakness whenever he was done with it.

the term “episodic-like” memory.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author does cite a weakness of the experiment but he's not criticizing the experiment for not being able to do what it's not able to do. A criticism is when you definitely expect something out an experiment and that very thing is not delivered. Here the author's simply saying that the experiment done by the second fellow had a weakness ... that's it, so a neutral tone.

**The author describes an experiment and states one of its limitations towards the end of the passage.**

### QUESTIONS

**The primary purpose of the passage is to**

- A. explain how the findings of a particular experiment have been interpreted and offer an alternative interpretation ... **“offer an alternative interpretation” means that the author suggests something or that the author has an opinion. The author has no opinion.**
- B. describe a particular experiment and point out one of its limitations ... **CORRECT**
- C. present similarities between human memory and animal memory ... **the author is talking about only ‘episodic’ memory. Also, the similarity being talked about is not by the author ... it is by Tulving. ‘Present similarities’ would mean that the author is presenting similarities, as the first verb belongs to the author**
- D. point out a flaw in the argument that a certain capacity is uniquely human ... **“point out a flaw” means to challenge something ... means the author must have an opinion and the tone should be negative.**
- E. account for the unexpected behaviour of animal subjects in a particular experiment ... **there is no hint in the passage to suggest that the behaviour was UNEXPECTED. Also, the author is not explaining (accounting for) anything. The passage is about the experiment by Clayton and others.**

**According to the passage, Clayton’s experiment depended on the fact that scrub jays**

- A. recall “when” and “where” information more distinctly than “what” information ... **a typical mathematical answer (and thus a red flag) ... a comparison of degree unnecessarily infused into three elements that have equal importance / weightage in the passage**
- B. are not able to retain information about a single past event for an indefinitely long period of time ... **Clayton was examining the birds’ accurate recalling of the what, where & when and their binding of this information ... inability to retain info for an indefinitely long time firstly is not mentioned in the passage ... and secondly would definitely not be something that the experiment would depend on**

- C. choose peanuts over crickets when the crickets have been stored for a long period of time ... **lines 19 – 24 confirm that this exactly the basis on which clayton concluded that the birds retain information about the what, where and when ... CORRECT**
- D. choose crickets over peanuts whenever both are available ... **this is the usual preference order of the birds ... however this does not form the basis of the experiment ... their ability to depart from this preferred behaviour over time (as the crickets degrade) was what led clayton to conclude that the birds retain what, where & when info**
- E. prefer peanuts that have been stored for a short period to crickets that have been stored for a short period ... **a short period (a period ensuring that the crickets remain fresh) would see the birds go with their usual preference – crickets ... 180 degrees**

**The passage suggests that Clayton's experiment demonstrated scrub jays' ability to**

- A. choose different storage places for different kinds of food to minimize the rate at which a food will degrade ... **there is no hint in the passage that the switch from crickets to peanuts was done to minimize food degradation rate ... not confirmed**
- B. unlearn a behaviour they use in the wild in order to adapt to laboratory conditions ... **the word unlearn is not verified from the passage ... the experiment was an exact simulation of the wild ... it did require any unlearning to adapt to the situation**
- C. bind together information about different aspects of a single past event ... **lines 19 – 20 confirm that the birds were able to retain information about the what, where and when and bind this information together to help themselves switch to the second food source after a certain period of time ... quite inferable ... CORRECT ... the birds' ability to do what is mentioned in this answer choice is the reason clayton terms the phenomenon 'episodic-like memory' towards the end**
- D. re-experience a past event in memory and act accordingly ... **the last line (lines 24 – 27, the blue highlighted portion) clearly states that this could not be definitively said ... this is actually pointed out as a limitation of the experiment**
- E. distinguish one learning event from a subsequent learning event ... **NO sequentially categorized learning events are mentioned in the passage ... the passage does not suggest that the jays learnt the what, where & when sequentially in time**

**It can be inferred from the passage that both Tulving and Clayton would agree with which of the following statements?**

- A. Animals' abilities to use information about a specific past event are not conclusive evidence of episodic memory ... **clayton acknowledged this by terming the phenomenon 'episodic-like memory' ... tulving was strongly convinced that the phenomenon was something only humans were capable of (lines 1 – 3), thus in way tulving would discard any evidence that would suggest animals being capable of the phenomenon too ... tulving would thus agree to the above mentioned answer choice as well ... CORRECT answer**
- B. Animals do not share humans' abilities to re-experience the past through memory ... **this is something that tulving strongly believed in ... however, clayton set out to test the phenomenon in animals ... even though he acknowledged that his experiment was**



inconclusive in proving that animals share the same ability, the passage nowhere mentions that he was convinced of the inability after the experiment ... perhaps he had another experiment in mind to test out on animals

- C. The accuracy of animals' memories is difficult to determine through direct experimentation ... **neither of the two is seen commenting on the accuracy of the animals' memories**
- D. Humans tend to recollect single bits of information more accurately than do animals ... **a typical mathematical answer (and thus a red flag) ... a comparison of degree ... humans are never compared with animals in the passage**
- E. The binding of different kinds of information is not a distinctive feature of episodic memory ... **'not a distinctive feature' implies that the feature is not characteristic of episodic memory alone ... no such comment is made or implied by either scientists**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 15)

**Many managers are influenced** by dangerous myths

about pay that lead to counterproductive decisions about how their companies compensate employees.

**One such myth** is that labor rates, the rate per hour

Line 5

paid to workers, are identical with labor costs, the money spent on labor in relation to the productivity of the labor force. This myth leads to the assumption that a company can simply lower its labor costs by cutting

wages. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** labor costs and labor rates are not in fact

Line 10

the same: one company could pay its workers considerably more than another and yet have lower labor costs if that company's productivity were higher due to the talent of its workforce, the efficiency of its work processes, or other factors. **The confusion of**

Line 15

**costs with rates persists partly because** labor rates are a convenient target for managers who want to make

**Comment [RN24]:** Signifies a commonly held view or a prevailing viewpoint among business managers

**Comment [RN25]:** The viewpoint that the passage takes up for discussion

**Comment [RN26]:** Rather than an opinion signaller, here it functions to supply information in a manner that justifies / substantiates the labelling of the viewpoint as a MYTH



an impact on their company's budgets. Because labor rates are highly visible, managers can easily compare their company's rates with those of competitors.

**Comment [RN27]:** Reason # 1 for the prevalence of the view held by business managers

Line 20 Furthermore, labor rates often appear to be a company's most malleable financial variable: cutting wages appears an easier way to control costs than such options as reconfiguring work processes or altering product design.

**Comment [RN28]:** Reason # 2 for the prevalence of the view held by business managers

Line 25 The myth that labor rates and labor costs are equivalent is supported by business journalists, who frequently confound the two. For example, prominent

business journals often remark on the "high" cost of

**Comment [RN29]:** Source # 1 supporting / perpetuating the viewpoint and hence Reason # 3 for the prevalence of the view

Line 30 German labor, citing as evidence the average amount paid to German workers. The myth is also perpetuated by the compensation consulting industry, which has its own incentives to keep such myths alive. First, although some of these consulting firms have recently broadened their practices beyond the area of

**Comment [RN30]:** Source # 2 supporting / perpetuating the viewpoint and hence Reason # 4 for the prevalence of the view

Line 35 compensation, their mainstay continues to be advising companies on changing their compensation practices.

Suggesting that a company's performance can be improved in some other way than by altering its pay system may be empirically correct but contrary to the

Line 40 consultants' interests. Furthermore, changes to the compensation system may appear to be simpler to implement than changes to other aspects of an organization, so managers are more likely to find such advice from consultants palatable. Finally, to the

Line 45 extent that changes in compensation create new

problems, the consultants will continue to have work solving the problems that result from their advice.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author is primarily concerned with highlighting a prevailing view among the business managers and citing reasons for its prevalence and widespread acceptance.

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that the “myth” mentioned in the highlighted text (line 4) persists partly because

- A. managers find it easier to compare their companies’ labor rates with those of competitors than to compare labor costs ... **a quote perfectly matched with Reason # 1 (lines 15 – 19) ... each word verified ... CORRECT**
- B. managers tend to assume that labor rates affect their companies’ budgets less than they actually do ... **the second highlighted reason (lines 20 – 24) suggests that what this answer option says is what managers feel to hold true in the case of labor costs rather than labor rates ... 180 DEGREES.**
- C. managers tend to believe that labor rates can have an impact on the efficiency of their companies’ work processes ... **the only place the word ‘efficiency’ is mentioned in the passage is line 13 and that too in connection with labor COSTS not rates ... manager’s belief as far as labor rates are concerned only pertains to cutting down budgets (line 17) and costs (line 22) ... nothing else**
- D. the average amount paid to workers differs significantly from one country to another ... **completely out of the scope of the passage ... no such mention at all**
- E. many companies fail to rely on compensation consultants when making decisions about labor rates ... **the word fail is not justified ... as far as the context of the passage is concerned this choice runs 180 degrees as companies are said to be dependent on consultants**

The author of the passage mentions business journals the highlighted text primarily in order to (purpose question)

- A. demonstrate how a particular kind of evidence can be used to support two different conclusions ... **firstly there are no two different conclusions in the passage ... secondly the only conclusion that the author ever supports is that the myth leads to counterproductive decisions which way above where business journals are mentioned ... business journals are the part where he’s citing reasons**
- B. cast doubt on a particular view about the average amount paid to German workers ... **cast doubt implies a NEGATIVE TONE ... the tone of the author throughout the passage is neutral ... also there is NO view on the average amount paid anywhere in the passage**

- C. suggest that business journalists may have a vested interest in perpetuating a particular view ... **suggest signifies an opinion ... the passage has no opinion from the author ... the vested interest mentioned is of the consultants not the journalists**
- D. identify one source of support for a view common among business managers ... **word to word perfect match ... he is discussing the reasons for the view's widespread acceptance ... CORRECT**
- E. indicate a way in which a particular myth could be dispelled ... **the myth everywhere in the passage is perpetuated ... never dispelled ... again 180 degrees**

**It can be inferred from the passage that the author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about compensation?**

- A. A company's labor costs are not affected by the efficiency of its work processes ... **lines 11 – 14 show that this sentence is exactly opposite of what is said in the passage**
- B. High labor rates are not necessarily inconsistent with the goals of companies that want to reduce costs ... **this is a slightly tweaked but word to word justified narration of lines 10 – 14 that say that there is no correlation between a company trying to lower its budget costs (which according to the author should be realized by lowering labor costs) – company goals – and labor rates ... a company thus may have high labor rates with lower labour costs via better efficiency, productivity etc and thus be on course to achieve its goal to reduce overall costs ... CORRECT**
- C. It is more difficult for managers to compare their companies' labor rates with those of competitors than to compare labor costs ... **lines 17 – 19 will prove that this is 180 deg**
- D. A company whose labor rates are high is unlikely to have lower labor costs than other companies ... **no relationship whatsoever is ever established in the passage between labor rates and labor costs ... the only mentions what each depends on**
- E. Managers often use information about competitors' labor costs to calculate those companies' labor rates ... **managers are mentioned to compare (and compare alone) labor rates (lines 17 – 19) ... one is not used to calculate the other ... calculate not verified**

**The author of the passage suggests which of the following about the advice that the consulting firms discussed in the passage customarily give to companies attempting to control costs?**

- A. It often fails to bring about the intended changes in companies' compensation systems ... **lines 44 – 47 confirm that the advice creates new problems so that the consultants may still stay in business ... this implies that the intended changes (removal of COST related problems faced by the companies) are never met ... CORRECT**
- B. It has **highly influenced (AVOID extremes)** views that predominate in prominent business journals ... **the only thing mentioned against the business journals in the passage is that they confound (mix up) the two terms – labor rates & labor costs – they certainly don't contain any views ... the word predominate ... is not confirmed from the passage**
- C. It tends to result in decreased labor rates but increased labor costs ... **all the passage says regarding the result of the advice given by the consultants is that the advice**

tends to create new problems (line 45) ... the definitive increase in labor rates, increase in costs is too specific to infer from this info

- D. It leads to changes in companies' compensation practices that are less visible than changes to work processes would be ... if anything reading lines 40 – 44 make it abundantly clear that the option is 180 degrees
- E. It might be different if the consulting firms were less narrowly specialized ... this is a prediction answer choice (prediction by the author) ... however no prediction (and certainly not the one in the answer choice) has been made by the author in the passage

According to the passage, which of the following is true about changes to a company's compensation system?

- A. They are often implemented in conjunction with a company's efforts to reconfigure its work processes ... the passage says that reconfiguring work processes is something that should be done to lower costs rather than attacking the company's compensation ... thus 'in conjunction' ... is absolutely wrong
- B. They have been advocated by prominent business journals as the most direct way for a company to bring about changes in its labor costs ... nothing of such or of any sort is advocated by the business journals in the passage ... the only issue the passage has with the journals is that they frequently confound (mix up) the two terms – labor costs & labor rates
- C. They are more likely to result in an increase in labor costs than they are to bring about competitive advantages for the company ... nothing of such sort is mentioned in the passage ... there is never a mention of any competitive advantage in the passage
- D. They sometimes result in significant (a bit extreme considering the context of the passage - AVOID) cost savings but are likely to create labor-relations problems for the company ... labor-relations problems is not mentioned in the passage and is thus not verified
- E. They may seem to managers to be relatively easy to implement compared with other kinds of changes managers might consider ... lines 40 – 43 & lines 20 – 24 confirm this answer choice word to word ... exact match ... CORRECT

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 16)

Acting on the recommendation of a British government  
committee investigating the high incidence in white  
lead factories of illness among employees, most of  
whom were women, the Home Secretary proposed in

- Line 5 1895 that Parliament enact legislation that would prohibit women from holding most jobs in white lead factories. Although the Women's Industrial Defence Committee (WIDC), formed in 1892 in response to earlier legislative attempts to restrict women's labor,
- Line 10 did not discount the white lead trade's potential health dangers, it opposed the proposal, viewing it as yet another instance of limiting women's work opportunities. Also opposing the proposal was the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women
- Line 15 (SPEW), which attempted to challenge it by investigating the causes of illness in white lead factories. SPEW contended, and WIDC concurred, that controllable conditions in such factories were responsible for the development of lead poisoning.
- Line 20 SPEW provided convincing evidence that lead poisoning could be avoided if workers were careful and clean and if already extant workplace safety regulations were stringently enforced. However, the Women's Trade Union League (WTUL), which had
- Line 25 ceased in the late 1880's to oppose restrictions on women's labor, supported the eventually enacted proposal, in part because safety regulations were generally not being enforced in white lead factories, where there were no unions (and little prospect of
- Line 30 any) to pressure employers to comply with safety regulations.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents the views of three bodies:

**WIDC:** opposed the legislation saying that the legislation will reduce employment opportunities for women.

**SPEW:** opposed the legislation saying that white lead poisoning could be avoided by strictly enforcing present regulation.

**WTUL:** supported the legislation.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. presenting various groups' views of the motives of those proposing certain legislation ... **nobody talked about the motives of the Legislators**
- B. contrasting the reasoning of various groups concerning their positions on certain proposed legislation ... **EXACTLY ... the author is presenting the POSITIONS (opinions) of the three groups. 'Contrast' signifies a neutral tone. CORRECT**
- C. tracing the process whereby certain proposed legislation was eventually enacted ... **the 'process of enactment' is completely out of scope as not a single word is presented about it**
- D. assessing the success of tactics adopted by various groups with respect to certain proposed legislation ... **'assessing' means a balanced tone**
- E. evaluating the arguments of various groups concerning certain proposed legislation ... **'evaluating' means a balanced tone**

The passage suggests that WIDC differed from WTUL in which of the following ways?

- A. WIDC believed that the existing safety regulations were adequate to protect women's health, whereas WTUL believed that such regulations needed to be strengthened ... **the word adequate surely does not fit here ... look at lines 17 – 19 – WIDC felt that controllable conditions (meaning they were not stringently enforced) was responsible for the disease ... thus WIDC felt the need for strengthening not WTUL ... WTUL had nothing to say on whether the regulations were adequate or needed strengthening**
- B. WIDC believed that unions could not succeed in pressuring employers to comply with such regulations, whereas WTUL believed that unions could succeed in doing so ... **It was WTUL that felt the unions could not succeed in pressuring the employers to comply with the safety regulations ... 180 degrees**
- C. WIDC believed that lead poisoning in white lead factories could be avoided by controlling conditions there, whereas WTUL believed that lead poisoning in such factories **could not be avoided no matter how stringently (extreme as compared to the context of the passage - AVOID)** safety regulations were enforced ... **the WTUL had reservations about whether employers could be pressurized to comply with the regulations ... never about whether the regulations themselves had the capacity to stop the poisoning**
- D. At the time that the legislation concerning white lead factories was proposed, WIDC was primarily concerned with addressing health conditions in white lead factories,



whereas WTUL was concerned with improving working conditions in **all (extreme - AVOID)** types of factories ... **whether addressing health conditions was a primary or a secondary concern for the WIDC is not mentioned and hence not confirmed ... nothing about WTUL involving improving the working conditions is mentioned**

- E. At the time that WIDC was opposing legislative attempts to restrict women's labor, WTUL had already ceased to do so ... **line 8 confirms WIDC to be formed in 1892 & line 25 confirms that WTUL had ceased to oppose restrictions on women's labor ... considering the two events on a timeline the above is perfectly inferable ... CORRECT**

**According to the passage, the WIDC believed that the proposed legislation resembled earlier legislation concerning women's labor in that it**

- A. caused divisiveness among women's organizations ... **no mention of any divisiveness anywhere**
- B. sought to protect women's health ... **the WIDC had a negative tone towards the proposed legislation ... this answer choice presents a positive tone**
- C. limited women's occupational opportunities ... **lines 11 – 13 confirm this option word by word ... CORRECT**
- D. failed to bolster workplace safety regulations ... **the legislation had nothing to do with addressing any safety regulations whatsoever ... the bolstering of the safety regulations was something suggested by the SPEW and the WIDC as an alternative to the legislation**
- E. failed to make distinctions among types of factory work ... **no mention of any distinctions being made anywhere in the passage**

**Which of the following, if true, would most clearly support the contention (yellow highlighted portion) attributed to SPEW in the highlighted text?**

- A. Those white lead factories that most strongly enforced regulations concerning worker safety and hygiene had the lowest incidences of lead poisoning among employees ... **this statistic is in direct support of the fact that controllable (more strictly enforceable) conditions were the reason behind the poisoning ... exactly the answer we're looking for ... CORRECT**
- B. The incidence of lead poisoning was much higher among women who worked in white lead factories than among women who worked in other types of factories ... **this comparison with other type of factories has no bearing on whether more stringently enforcing the existing safety regulations could lessen the chances of acquiring the disease**
- C. There were many household sources of lead that could have contributed to the incidence of lead poisoning among women who also worked outside the home in the late nineteenth century ... **this indirectly says that stricter compliance with the safety regulations at the factory premises would still result in the poisoning and would thereby have no effect ... this rather weakens the contention**
- D. White lead factories were more stringent than were certain other types of factories in their enforcement of workplace safety regulations ... **again comparison with other factories is irrelevant here ... it has no bearing on whether more stringent**



**enforcement in the white lead factories itself could lead to an improved situation ... for all we know the other factories could have immensely lenient enforcement**

- E. Even brief exposure to the conditions typically found in white lead factories could cause lead poisoning among factory workers ... **this again indirectly says that enforcing the regulations more strictly would have little chance for things to improve ... a weakener**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 17)

In *American Genesis*, which covers the century of technological innovation in the United States beginning in 1876, Thomas Hughes assigns special prominence to Thomas Edison as archetype of the independent nineteenth-century inventor. However, Hughes virtually ignores Edison's famous contemporary and notorious adversary in the field of electric light and power, George Westinghouse. This comparative neglect of Westinghouse is consistent with other recent historians' works, although it marks an intriguing departure from the prevailing view during the inventors' lifetimes (and for decades afterward) of Edison and Westinghouse as the two "pioneer innovators" of the electrical industry.

**My recent reevaluation** of Westinghouse, facilitated by materials found in railroad archives, **suggests** that while Westinghouse and Edison shared important traits as inventors, they differed markedly in their approach to the business aspects of innovation. For Edison as an inventor, novelty was always paramount: the overriding goal of the business of innovation was

**Comment [RN31]:** This instead of a criticism is actually what one would see looking through Hughes' and the historians' lens ... this is their interpretation ... the last sentence of the passage presents what one would see looking through the new lens that the author provides in the passage

**Comment [RN32]:** It is hard evidence and it is his reanalysis that suggests ... this is more like an interpretation rather than a suggestion ...

simply to generate funding for new inventions. Edison therefore undertook just enough sales, product development, and manufacturing to accomplish this.

Line 25 Westinghouse, however, shared the attitudes of the railroads and other industries for whom he developed innovations: product development, standardization, system, and order were top priorities. Westinghouse thus better exemplifies the systematic approach to

Line 30 technological development that would become a hallmark of modern corporate research and development.

#### **Author: NO OPINION**

Note carefully that the aim of the author here in this passage is neither to defend Westinghouse's works and efforts nor to show that Edison should not be given the prominence that he has been ... saying that in his opinion he was a much better example of a systematic approach to technological development than Edison → this is something that the author arrives at in an attempt to do something else ... that is prove that through his lens, things say out a different story. The passage is analogous to saying that reevaluated evidence at a crime scene provides a different perspective on what actually went down ... MORE THAN STATING HIS BELIEF / OR ANY SORT OF A SUBJECTIVE STATEMENT (OPINION) THE AUTHOR SEEMS TO BE INTERESTED IN PRESENTING HIS OWN ANALYSIS / RESEARCH FROM WHICH ONE MIGHT FORM A LOGICALLY DERIVED (OBJECTIVE) CONCLUSION ... and that is exactly what a perspective (a way of regarding something) is.

#### **Tone: NUETRAL**

In the entire passage there is no rebuttal / refutation or support / defence of any sort. It is a clear cut example of how something that the author felt was strange led him to some bit of his own work to present a different way of regarding facts.

**The author presents an earlier perspective, and based on his reevaluation presents to the reader a new perspective.**

### **QUESTIONS**

**The primary purpose of the passage is to**

- A. reevaluate a controversial theory ... **nothing controversial mentioned in the passage**
- B. identify the flaws in a study ... **the author is not telling the flaws in the works of others. He presents his own interpretation, instead.**
- C. propose a new method of historical research ... **no method is proposed here.**

**Comment [RN33]:** Although the word 'thus' may give off a scent of opinion here, looking at this line in the context of entire passage this is just a different view that the author has arrived at, the purpose of this sentence is to contrast the earlier view in the passage that Edison deserves all the lime light ...

- D. compare two contrasting analyses ... **the author doesn't compare anything. Also, there is nothing contrasting.**
- E. provide a fresh perspective ... **the author first tells that because in his times and until decades later, Westinghouse was quite a respected figure as a pioneer innovator. So it is surprising (look at the words intriguing departure) that modern historians and American Genesis have somehow managed to ignore Westinghouse's contribution ... So the author sets out to do his own research and finds that although both contributed a great deal to 'innovations', their approaches were quite different from each other's ... So the author provides us with a fresh lens to look at Westinghouse's contribution ... CORRECT**

According to the passage, Edison's chief concern as an inventor was the

- A. availability of a commercial market ... **for Edison novelty was paramount (lines 19 – 20) ... anything to do with any commercial activity was least of his concerns as long as he was generating enough funds**
- B. costs of developing a prototype ... **no such costs are ever mentioned in the passage**
- C. originality of his inventions ... **an exact match of what lines 19 – 22 have to say ... CORRECT**
- D. maintenance of high standards throughout production ... **Edison in the passage is more attached to invention ... nothing about his standards throughout PRODUCTION has been mentioned**
- E. generation of enough profits to pay for continued marketing ... **the generation of enough money was to ensure continued funding to his new innovations ... there is never any mention of anything to do with marketing anywhere**

The author of the passage implies that the shift away from the views of Westinghouse's contemporaries should be regarded as

- A. a natural outgrowth of the recent revival of interest in Edison ... **no such recent interest or revival of any sort is mentioned in the passage**
- B. a result of scholarship based on previously unknown documents ... **the shift is never given to be a result of anything ... word result isn't verified**
- C. reflective of modern neglect of the views of previous generations ... **the passage talks of only two inventors ... 'previous generations' is a specific to general error**
- D. inevitable, given the changing trends in historical interpretations ... **no trends, no such inevitability is ever talked of in the passage**
- E. surprising, given the stature that Westinghouse once had ... **the author's attitude towards the departure / 'shift away' is one of surprise ... notice the words intriguing departure line 11 ... thus a perfect match of lines 10 – 14 ... CORRECT**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 18)

For many years, historians thought that the development of capitalism had not faced serious challenges in the United States. Writing in the early twentieth century, **progressive historians** sympathized with the battles waged by farmers and small producers against large capitalists in the late nineteenth century, but they did not question the widespread acceptance of laissez-faire (unregulated) capitalism throughout American history. Similarly, Louis Hartz, who

sometimes disagreed with the Progressives, argued that Americans accepted laissez-faire capitalism without challenge because they lacked a feudal, pre-capitalist past. Recently, however, some **scholars** have argued that even though laissez-faire became the prevailing ethos in nineteenth-century America, it was not accepted without struggle. Laissez-faire capitalism, they suggest, clashed with existing religious and communitarian **norms** that imposed moral constraints on acquisitiveness to protect the weak from the

predatory, the strong from corruption, and the entire culture from materialist excess. Buttressed by mercantilist notions that government should be both regulator and promoter of economic activity, these norms persisted long after the American Revolution

helped unleash the economic forces that produced capitalism. These scholars argue that even in the late nineteenth century, with the government's role in the

economy considerably diminished, laissez-faire had not triumphed completely. Hard times continued to revive popular demands for regulating business and softening the harsh edges of laissez-faire capitalism.

Line 30

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents the opinions of various sides:

**Progressive historians** ... capitalism and laissez faire faced not much opposition

**Louis Hartz** ... sometimes disagreed with the Progressive historians ... capitalism and laissez faire faced hardly any opposition

**Scholars:** although capitalism and laissez faire were widespread in 19th Century America, they still faced opposition and struggle.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. reveal the underlying similarities of certain arguments regarding the development of capitalism in the United States ... **the arguments are not similar**
- B. synthesize two competing arguments regarding the development of capitalism in the United States ... **'synthesize' means to combine and present as ONE ... the arguments are not similar.**
- C. defend an established argument regarding the development of capitalism in the United States ... **the author doesn't have any opinion. 'Defend' signifies opinion on part of the author.**
- D. summarize a scholarly refutation of an argument regarding the development of capitalism in the United States ... **from above, follows exactly. CORRECT**
- E. discuss a new methodology for the study of the development of capitalism in the United States ... **the author doesn't even talk about anything NEW or METHODOLOGY.**

According to the passage, the Progressive historians and the scholars mentioned in the highlighted texts disagree with regard to which of the following?

- A. Whether laissez-faire became the predominant ethos in the nineteenth-century United States ... **the disagreement was on the route (development) through which laissez-faire before being widely accepted ... have a look at lines 13 – 15 ... they suggest that laissez-faire becoming the prevailing ethos was accepted by both**
- B. Whether moral restraints on acquisitiveness were necessary in the nineteenth century United States ... **no such debate is mentioned in the passage ... the passage mentions 'restraints on acquisitiveness' as a piece of evidence put forth by the scholars in their argument ... the passage never shows anyone disputing it**

- C. The economic utility of mercantilist notions of government ... **again this is something that forms part of scholars' argument ... this piece of info is never disputed**
- D. The nature of the historical conditions necessary for the development of laissez-faire capitalism in the nineteenth-century United States ... **the word necessary isn't confirmed from the context of the passage ... mentioning the word necessary, we're implying that all of what is mentioned in the passage with regard to the historians and scholars actually aided the development of capitalism ... however, the core of the scholar's argument is something exactly opposite ... capitalism faced plenty opposition**
- E. The existence of significant opposition to the development of laissez-faire capitalism in the nineteenth-century United States ... **the historians said there wasn't any ... the scholars contended there was ... perfect match with regard to the disagreement mentioned in the passage ... CORRECT**

The passage suggests that the scholars mentioned in the highlighted text would agree with which of the following statements regarding the "norms" mentioned in the subsequent highlighted text?

- A. They provided a primary source of opposition to the development of laissez-faire capitalism in the United States in the nineteenth century ... **after the author introduces norms as a source of opposition as felt by the scholars, the only other source of opposition that scholars felt in addition to this were the mercantilist notions (line 22) which are mentioned to have buttressed (provide secondary support) the previous source ... primary source is thus inferable ... best match ... CORRECT**
- B. Their appeal was undermined by difficult economic times in the United States at the end of the nineteenth century ... **line 24 mentions the norms to have persisted long after the revolution ... thus nothing of this sort (answer choice) is inferable from the passage**
- C. They disappeared in the United States in the late nineteenth century because of the triumph of laissez-faire capitalism ... **the passage mentions that even in the late nineteenth century, the laissez faire had not triumphed completely**
- D. They facilitated the successful implementation of mercantilist notions of government in the United States in the nineteenth-century ... **reverse order of events ... the notions have been said to have supplemented (buttressed) the cause forwarded by the norms**
- E. They are now recognized by historians as having been an important part of the ideology of the American Revolution ... **nothing of such sort (any conceding whatsoever) has been mentioned on part of the historians**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 19)

In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, many



Western Pueblo settlements in what is now the southwestern United States **may have possessed** distinctly hierarchical organizational structures. **These**

**Comment [RN34]:** Main point of the author ... his Hypothesis ... MUST be a part of the primary purpose question answer choice

**Line 5** communities' agricultural systems—which were "intensive" in the use of labor rather than "extensive"

**Comment [RN35]:** The rest of the passage from here on is largely factual ...

in area—may have given rise to political leadership (**indicates hierarchy**) that managed both labor and food resources. That formal management of food resources was needed is

**Line 10** suggested by the large size of **storage spaces** located around some communal Great Kivas (underground ceremonial chambers). Though no direct evidence exists that such spaces were used to store food,

**Line 15** Western Pueblo communities lacking sufficient arable land to support their populations could have preserved the necessary extra food, including imported foodstuffs, in such apparently communal spaces. Moreover, evidence of specialization in producing raw materials and in manufacturing ceramics and textiles

**Line 20** indicates differentiation of labor (**indicates hierarchy**) within and between communities. The organizational and managerial demands of such specialization strengthen the possibility that a decision-making elite (**indicates hierarchy**) existed, an elite whose control (**indicates hierarchy**) over labor, the use of community

**Line 25** surpluses, and the acquisition of imported goods would have led to a concentration of economic resources in their own hands. Evidence for differential distribution of wealth (**indicates hierarchy**) is found in burials of the period: some include large quantities of pottery, jewelry, and

**Line 30** other artifacts, whereas others from the same sites



lack any such materials (indicates hierarchy).

**Author:** OPINION (by the author - Hypothesis) ... MUST be a part of the primary purpose question answer choice

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author presents his hypothesis in the first sentence of the passage and then goes on to provide numerous examples to support his hypothesis

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following, if true, would most clearly undermine the author's statement in the last sentence of the passage regarding the distribution of wealth in Western Pueblo settlements?

- A. Only community members of exceptional wealth are likely to have been buried with their personal possessions ... **this strengthens the argument that differential distribution of wealth did indeed exist ... we're looking for a weakener**
- B. Members of communities with extensive agricultural systems are usually buried without personal possessions ... **this may partly explain why some of the burials had no materials buried along with them, however this still fails to show how differential distribution of wealth may not have existed ... for all we know the ones buried could have had no personal possessions at all**
- C. Most artifacts found in burial sites were manufactured locally rather than imported from other communities ... **this is completely irrelevant to the argument**
- D. Burial artifacts are often ritual objects associated with religious practices rather than being the deceased's personal possessions ... **this option gives reason to believe that the materials found at some burial sites were a result of religious practices ... the evidence of finding the material at some places and not at other places then cannot be said to conclude that differential distribution existed ... weakens ... CORRECT**
- E. The quality of burial artifacts varies depending on the site with which they are associated ... **this if anything slightly strengthens the argument ... giving reason to believe that differential distribution of wealth did exist**

According to the passage, which of the following is probably true of the storage spaces mentioned in highlighted text?

- A. They were used by the community elite for storage of their own food supplies ... **nothing of such sort is confirmed from the passage ... no particular group is ascribed to having stored its food in the storage spaces mentioned**
- B. They served a ceremonial as well as a practical function ... **the storage spaces are said to serve no such purpose ... the storage spaces are mentioned to be located around the ceremonial chambers**
- C. Their size is an indication of the wealth of the particular community to which they belonged ... **no correlation between their size and indicative wealth is ever drawn in the passage**

- D. Their existence **proves (extreme as per the context of the passage - AVOID)** that the community to which they belonged imported large amounts of food ... **lines 12 – 17 say with uncertainty that these spaces were used to store food ... moreover food imports is mentioned as a part of the hypothesis that says that the spaces might have been used to store food ... this is certainly never proved ... large amounts is not verified**
- E. They belonged to and were used by the community as a whole ... **lines 12 – 17 say that even though we're unsure about whether the spaces were used to store food, we do know that they definitely were communal spaces (mentioned in the end of line 17) ... thus used by the community as a whole ... verified word by word ... CORRECT**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **outline (red flag / bullet list option – AVOID)** the methods by which resources were managed within a particular group of communities ... **No methods are discussed.**
- B. account for the distribution of wealth within a particular group of communities ... **the passage is about social hierarchy, not distribution of wealth, specifically.**
- C. provide support for a hypothesis concerning the social structure of a particular society ... **so many examples provided by the author supports author's hypothesis in the first sentence that some kind of social structure existed. CORRECT**
- D. explain how political leadership changed in a particular historical situation ... **the passage is about social hierarchy, not about political leadership, specifically.**
- E. **present new evidence (red flag – AVOID)** that contradicts previous theories about a particular historical situation ... **the author is not contradicting anyone or any previous theories. The author is also not providing any new evidence.**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 20)

Researchers studying how genes control animal behavior have had to deal with many uncertainties. In the first place, most behaviors are governed by more than one gene, and until recently geneticists had no method for identifying the multiple genes involved. In addition, even when a single gene is found to control a behavior, researchers in different fields do not necessarily agree that it is a "behavioral gene." Neuroscientists, whose interest in genetic research is

Line 5

- Line 10 to understand the nervous system (which generates behavior), define the term broadly. But ethologists—specialists in animal behavior—are interested in evolution, so they define the term narrowly. They insist that mutations in a behavioral gene **must** alter a
- Line 15 specific normal behavior and not merely make the organism ill, so that the genetically induced behavioral change will provide variation that natural selection can act upon, possibly leading to the evolution of a new species. For example, in the fruit fly, researchers have
- Line 20 identified the gene *Shaker*, mutations in which cause flies to shake violently under anesthesia. Since shaking is not healthy, ethologists do not consider *Shaker* a behavioral gene. In contrast, ethologists do consider the gene period (*per*), which controls the fruit-fly's
- Line 25 circadian (24-hour) rhythm, a behavioral gene because flies with mutated *per* genes are healthy; they simply have different rhythms.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces that there is disagreement (different takes) regarding the definition of a 'behavioural gene'. The author then presents each's (neuroscientists' and ethologists') take on what is regarded as a behavioural gene.

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that neuroscientists would most likely consider *Shaker* to be which of the following?

- A. An example of a behavioral gene ... lines 19 – 21 & 21 – 23 confirm that researchers (barring ethologists and hence including neuroscientists) have identified the shaker as a behavioural gene ... perfect match ... CORRECT
- B. One of multiple genes that control a single behaviour ... the notion of multiple genes controlling a single behaviour is mentioned in the passage however no such multiple genes constituents are ever identified in the passage

- C. A gene that, when mutated, causes an alteration in a specific normal behavior without making the organism ill ... **the neuroscientists have nothing to do with whether a mutation makes an organism ill according to the passage nor do they base their characterization of a behavioural gene on the organism not becoming ill post mutation ... this is something taken into consideration ONLY by the ethologists**
- D. A gene of interest to ethologists but of no interest to neuroscientists ... **relative interests of any gene is never talked of in the passage**
- E. A poor source of information about the nervous system ... **no such comment is ever made by the neuroscientists or anyone else for that matter**

It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following, if true, would be most likely to influence ethologists' opinions about whether a particular gene in a species is a behavioral gene?

- A. The gene is found only in that species ... **the gene being specific to one specie alone is not a criteria mentioned in the passage**
- B. The gene is extremely difficult to identify ... **the characterization has nothing to do with the degree of difficulty**
- C. The only effect of mutations in the gene is to make the organism ill ... **lines 13 – 19 infer that if this were the only effect, the ethologists would most likely not consider the gene a behavioural gene ... max influence on the ethologists ... CORRECT**
- D. Neuroscientists consider the gene to be a behavioral gene ... **the ethologists are never seen to follow suit / be influenced by any other group ... least of all by neuroscientists**
- E. Geneticists consider the gene to be a behavioral gene ... **the ethologists are never seen to follow suit / be influenced by any other group ... geneticists are never mentioned**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. summarize findings in an area of research ... **the author presents the viewpoints of two different group of researchers on a definition rather than findings ... there is no area of research in the passage just separate takes on a definition**
- B. discuss different perspectives on a scientific question ... **this is exactly what the author is doing ... the perspectives are of the neuroscientists and the ethologists ... CORRECT**
- C. **outline (red flag / bullet list option – AVOID)** the major questions in a scientific discipline ... **there are no multiple questions here ... just one → what constitutes a behavioural gene**
- D. illustrate the usefulness of investigating a research topic ... **to illustrate means to show using examples ... no such usefulness is implied or concluded in the passage**
- E. reconcile differences between two definitions of a term ... **to reconcile means to take two seemingly disparate (incompatible) facts and show that they're compatible ... reconcile implies an opinion and a positive tone ... wrong answer**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 21)

(This passage is excerpted from material published in 1997.)

Whereas United States economic productivity grew at an annual rate of 3 percent from 1945 to 1965, it has grown at an annual rate of only about 1 percent since the early 1970's. What might be preventing higher

Line 5 productivity growth? Clearly, the manufacturing sector

of the economy cannot be blamed. Since 1980,

productivity improvements in manufacturing have

moved the United States from a position of acute

decline in manufacturing to one of world prominence.

Line 10 Manufacturing, however, constitutes a relatively small

proportion of the economy. In 1992, goods-producing

businesses employed only 19.1 percent of American

workers, whereas service-producing businesses

employed 70 percent. Although the service sector has

Line 15 grown since the late 1970's, its productivity growth

has declined. (all factual till here – a build up to the main discussion which is to follow)

Several explanations have been offered for this decline

and for the discrepancy in productivity growth

between the manufacturing and service sectors. One is

Line 20 that traditional measures fail to reflect service-sector

productivity growth because it has been concentrated

in improved quality of services. Yet (CONTRAST WORD—signals opinion) traditional

measures of manufacturing productivity have shown

significant increases despite the under-measurement

Line 25 of quality, whereas service productivity has continued

to stagnate. Others argue that since the 1970's, manufacturing workers, faced with strong foreign competition, have learned to work more efficiently in order to keep their jobs in the United States, but

**Comment [RN36]:** Evidence presented to show the explanation's inadequacy

Line 30 service workers, who are typically under less global competitive pressure, have not. **However (CONTRAST WORD—signals opinion)**, the pressure on manufacturing workers in the United States to work more efficiently has generally been overstated, often for political reasons. In fact, while some manufacturing

**Comment [RN37]:** Evidence presented to show the explanation's inadequacy

Line 35 jobs have been lost due to foreign competition, many more have been lost simply because of slow growth in demand for manufactured goods.

Yet another explanation blames the federal budget deficit: if it were lower, interest rates would be lower

Line 40 too, thereby increasing investment in the development of new technologies, which would spur productivity growth in the service sector. **There is, however (CONTRAST WORD—signals opinion)**, no dearth of technological resources; rather, managers in the service sector fail to take advantage of widely

Line 45 available skills and machines. High productivity growth

**Comment [RN38]:** Evidence presented to show the explanation's inadequacy

levels attained by leading-edge service companies indicate that service-sector managers who wisely implement available technology and choose skillful workers can significantly improve their companies'

Line 50 productivity. **The culprits for service-sector productivity stagnation are the forces—such as corporate takeovers and unnecessary governmental regulation—that distract managers from the task of making optimal use of available resources.**

**Comment [RN39]:** Author's opinion ...



**Author: OPINION** (what author feels is actually responsible for service sector productivity stagnation)

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author talks about a certain phenomenon highlighting an apparent discrepancy. The author then looks into three explanations for the discrepancy and shows with the help of facts that they are inadequate. The author ends with his view on why stagnation exists

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the budget-deficit explanation mentioned in the highlighted text for the discrepancy mentioned in the highlighted?

- A. Research shows that the federal budget deficit has traditionally caused service companies to invest less money in research and development of new technologies ... **this would mean more the deficit, less would be the investment and therefore productivity ... this strengthens rather than weakening**
- B. New technologies have been shown to play a significant role in companies that have been able to increase their service productivity ... **this kind of implies that more the investment in new technology more would be the productivity ... strengthens if anything**
- C. In both the service sector and manufacturing, productivity improvements are concentrated in gains in quality ... **this has no bearing on the argument whether investment in newer technology because of lower budget deficit would lead to gains in quality or increase in productivity**
- D. The service sector typically requires larger investments in new technology in order to maintain productivity growth than does manufacturing ... **the comparison has little to do with the core of the argument ... whether lower deficit → increased productivity**
- E. High interest rates tend to slow the growth of manufacturing productivity as much as they **slow** the growth of service-sector productivity in the United States ... **this option gives reason to believe that a fall in deficits may not necessarily result in increased productivity ... thus weakens... CORRECT**

The passage (as in the author) states which of the following about the effect of foreign competition on the American manufacturing sector since the 1970's?

- A. It has often been exaggerated ... **line 31 – 34 confirm this word by word ... CORRECT**
- B. It has not been a direct cause of job loss ... **nothing in the passage hints the effect to be an indirect cause**
- C. It has in **large part (extreme in context of the passage - AVOID)** been responsible for the subsequent slowing of productivity **growth ... the connection of the effect of foreign competition has been made with the slowing / stagnation of service productivity growth not growth in general ... the effect is mentioned to be an overstatement rather than something largely responsible**



- D. It has slowed growth in the demand for manufactured goods in the United States ... **the slowed growth in demand is offered as an alternate reason for the pressure to keep one's manufacturing job thereby diluting the pressure due to foreign competition**
- E. It has been responsible for the **majority (extreme - AVOID)** of American jobs lost in manufacturing ... **the passage says that the effect is an overstatement and that more jobs have been lost because of the slowed growth in demand for manufacturing goods ... this is thus not inferable**

It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following was true of the United States manufacturing sector in the years immediately prior to 1980?

- A. It was performing relatively poorly ... **for an inference question this option presents the complement of what is said in lines 6 – 9. One of the correct answer choices of an inference question is the one that presents the complement of the information presented in the passage as does this one ... CORRECT**
- B. It was in a position of world prominence ... **the passage recalls that prior to 1980 it was in position of acute decline ... 180 DEGREES.**
- C. It was increasing its productivity at an annual rate of 3 percent ... **the 3 % mentioned is for the annual increase in economic productivity from 1945 – 1965**
- D. It was increasing its productivity at an annual rate of 1 percent ... **the 1 % mentioned is for the annual increase in economic productivity post 1970**
- E. Its level of productivity was higher than afterward ... **post 1980 the passage mentions the productivity to go from a state of acute decline to a state of world prominence ... the option mentions something 180 degrees**

The author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about productivity improvements in United States service companies?

- A. Such improvements would be largely attributable to efficiencies resulting from corporate takeovers ... **lines 50 – 51 mention corporate takeovers as one of the reasons behind productivity stagnation ... 180 degrees**
- B. Such improvements would depend more on wise implementation of technology than on managers' choice of skilled workers ... **a typical mathematical answer ... the option unnecessarily infuses a degree of comparison between two reasons that are only presented by author in lines 45 – 50.**
- C. Such improvements would be more easily accomplished if there were fewer governmental regulations of the service sector ... **unnecessary governmental regulations is mentioned as one of the culprits of productivity stagnation regarding service companies ... thus a perfectly inferable answer choice ... CORRECT**
- D. Such improvements would require companies to invest **heavily (extreme considering the passage - AVOID)** in the development of new technologies ... **the author in lines 42 – 45 contends that despite there being sufficient investment it is the way that these investments are used is what determines whether productivity is likely to rise ... thus heavy investments do not necessarily mean increased productivity**
- E. Such improvements would be attributable primarily to companies' facing global competitive pressure ... **lines 34 – 37 show that the global competitive pressure is**

irrelevant to the argument at hand ... they're certainly not something that are sure to drive up productivity ... no such relation is even established in the passage

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 22)

Years before the advent of plate tectonics—the widely accepted theory, developed in the mid-1960's, the holds that the major features of Earth's surface are created by the horizontal motions of Earth's outer

Line 5 shell, or lithosphere—a similar theory was rejected by the geological community. In 1912, Alfred Wegener proposed, in a widely debated theory that came to be called continental drift, that Earth's continents were mobile.

Line 10 To most geologists today, Wegener's The origin of Continents and Oceans appears an impressive and prescient document, containing several of the essential presumptions underlying plate tectonics theory: the horizontal mobility of pieces of Earth's crust; the

Line 15 essential difference between oceanic and continental crust; and a causal connection between horizontal displacements and the formation of mountain chains.

Yet despite the considerable overlap between Wegener's concepts and the later widely embraced

Line 20 plate tectonics theory, and despite the fact that continental drift theory presented a possible solution to the problem of the origin of mountains at a time when existing explanations were seriously in doubt, in

its day Wegener's theory was rejected by the vast

Line 25 majority of geologists.

Most geologists and many historians today believe that Wegener's theory was rejected because of its lack of an adequate mechanical basis. Stephen Jay Gould, for example, argues that continental drift theory was

Line 30 rejected because it did not explain how continents could move through an apparently solid oceanic floor.

However, as Anthony Hallam has pointed out, many scientific phenomena, such as the ice ages, have been accepted before they could be fully explained. The

Line 35 most likely cause for the rejection of continental drift—a cause that has been largely ignored because we consider Wegener's theory to have been validated by the theory of plate tectonics—is the nature of the evidence that was put forward to support it. Most of

Line 40 Wegener's evidence consisted of homologies—similarities of patterns and forms based on direct observations of rocks in the field, supported by the use of hammers, hand lenses, and field notebooks. In contrast, the data supporting plate tectonics were

Line 45 impressively geophysical—instrumental determinations of the physical properties of Earth garnered through the use of seismographs, magnetometers, and computers.

**Author: OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author is not depressed while writing about the rejection and its reasons given

**The author introduces a theory that is well accepted today and presents the case of another similar theory – proposed much earlier than the widely accepted one – that was**

**Comment [RN40]:** Author's Opinion ... the author's belief as to why the theory was primarily rejected

rejected at the time. The author then examines a commonly believed reason on why the theory was rejected to show that the reason doesn't quite fit. He ends by giving us his take (OPINION) on the reason for rejection.

### QUESTIONS

The author cites Hallam on the ice ages primarily in order to (purpose question)

- A. provide an example of a geologic phenomenon whose precise causes are not fully understood by geologists today ... **the author cites Hallam as saying that ice ages had been accepted before they could be explained ... which implies that they were not fully understood at the time of their acceptance but does NOT imply that they're still not fully understood**
- B. criticize the geological community for an apparent lack of consistency in its responses to new theories ... **the author presents no criticism anywhere in the passage ... the tone of the passage is neutral**
- C. offer evidence held to undermine a common view of why Wegener's theory was not accepted in its day ... **EXACTLY ... lines 26 – 31 show that a commonly believed reason for the rejection was the need to be able to fully comprehend the theory ... this view is undermined by Hallam using the ice ages example ... CORRECT**
- D. give an example of a modern scientist who believes that Wegener's theory was rejected because it failed to adequately explain the mechanical basis of continental drift ... **such an example is of Stephen Jay Gould ... Hallam does precisely the opposite ... 180 degrees answer choice**
- E. support Gould's rationale for why Wegener's theory was rejected by most geologists in the early twentieth century ... **rather than support Hallam actually contends Gould's rationale ... 180 degrees answer**

The author of the passage refers to the "considerable overlap" between continental drift theory and plate tectonics theory most probably in order to (purpose question)

- A. suggest that plate tectonics theory is derived from Wegener's work ... **the 'intriguing factor' in the passage is the rejection due to the 'considerable overlap' between one rejected and one widely accepted theory ... whether one is derived from the other is irrelevant and not discussed**
- B. introduce a discussion comparing the elements of the two theories ... **there is no comparison discussion in the passage ... just a mention that there is considerable overlap ... the only comparison is in the evidence presented towards the end of the passage**
- C. examine the question of whether continental drift theory was innovative in its time ... **again whether the former was derived from the latter or was innovative is not the issue here in the passage**
- D. provide a reason why it might seem surprising that continental drift theory was not more widely embraced by geologists ... **lines 18 – 20 say exactly this ... it is presented as a reason for the surprising nature of the rejection ... CORRECT**

- E. cite an explanation that has been frequently offered for Wegener's high standing among geologists today ... **Wegener's high standing is never cited to be because his theory had considerable overlap with the later theory**

The author of the passage suggests that the most likely explanation for the geological community's response to continental drift theory in its day was that the theory

- A. was in conflict with certain aspects of plate tectonics theory ... **totally absurd choice ... the plate tectonics theory had not even been born at the time**
- B. failed to account for how mountains were formed ... **lines 20 – 23 pretty much suggest the opposite of what this choice has to say**
- C. did not adequately explain how continents moved through the ocean floor ... **this is the commonly believed reason for the rejection ... a reason that the author cites Hallam to show that it is not quite so a valid reason**
- D. was contradicted by the geophysical data of the time ... **no contradictions between the theory and any geophysical data at the time are mentioned**
- E. was based on a kind of evidence that was considered insufficiently convincing ... **this is exactly what the passage post line 35 mentions ... perfect match ... CORRECT**

It can be inferred from the passage that geologists today would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about Wegener's The Origin of Continents and Oceans?

- A. It was a worthy scientific effort that was ahead of its time ... **this is exactly what lines 10 – 12 say about the document ... prescient → ahead of its time ... CORRECT**
- B. It was based on evidence that was later disproved ... **the evidence it was based on was considered insufficiently convincing at the time ... it wasn't disproved ever**
- C. It was directly responsible for the acceptance of the theory of plate tectonics ... **no such relation is drawn in the passage ... the acceptance of the latter theory is not discussed**
- D. It has been disproved by continental drift theory ... **the theory was rejected but has never been disproved ... i.e. proven to be false**
- E. It misrepresented how horizontal displacements cause the formation of mountain chains ... **no such misrepresentation is confirmed from the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 23)

Many economists **believe** that a high rate of business savings in the United States is a necessary precursor to investment, because business savings, as opposed to personal savings, comprise almost three-quarters of

**Comment [RN41]:** The author takes up a common held belief among economists ... this is the economists' OPINION ...

Line 5 the national savings rate, and the national savings rate heavily influences the overall rate of business investment. These economists further postulate that real interest rates—the difference between the rates charged by lenders and the inflation rates—will be low

Comment [RN42]: Belief # 2

Line 10 when national savings exceed business investment (creating a savings surplus), and high when national savings fall below the level of business investment (creating a savings deficit). However (CONTRAST WORD), during the 1960's real interest rates were often higher when the

Line 15 national savings surplus was large. Counterintuitive behavior also occurred when real interest rates skyrocketed from 2 percent in 1980 to 7 percent in 1982, even though national savings and investments were roughly equal throughout the period. Clearly, real

Comment [RN43]: Author's response to the economists' opinion via presentation of hard evidence that CONTRADICTS the economists' postulation ...

Line 20 interest rates respond to influences other than the savings/investment nexus. Indeed, real interest rates may themselves influence swings in the savings and investment rates. As real interest rates shot up after 1979, foreign investors poured capital into the United

Comment [RN44]: Implies logical derivation from hard evidence thus a FACT

Line 25 States, the price of domestic goods increased prohibitively abroad, and the price of foreign-made goods became lower in the United States. As a result, domestic economic activity and the ability of businesses to save and invest were restrained.

Comment [RN45]: Author presents a FACTUAL POSSIBILITY in context of the rest of the passage rather than any prediction or hypothesis

Comment [RN46]: More hard evidence that CONTRADICTS the economists' postulation ...

#### Author: NO OPINION

The author seems to reject the opinion of the economists via the presentation of hard factual evidence that contradicts the economists' beliefs. The author does not make any explicit comment from his side on the beliefs only presents evidence

#### Tone: NEGATIVE (implied criticism)



This passage is implied criticism only ... No suggestion.

The passage begins with the introduction of commonly held beliefs among economists followed swiftly by bringing up pieces of actual facts that run counter to the beliefs.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. contrasting trends in two historical periods ... **neutral tone answer ... the trends presented are to challenge the beliefs of the economists**
- B. presenting evidence that calls into question certain beliefs ... **EXACTLY what the author is doing in the passage as a whole ... takes up beliefs and brings up evidence that challenge them ... CORRECT**
- C. explaining the reasons for a common phenomenon ... **neutral tone answer ... it is not so much the phenomenon that the author is concerned with as it is the economists' belief**
- D. criticizing evidence offered in support of a well-respected belief ... **the only evidence offered is by the author ... he can't criticize what he himself offers**
- E. comparing conflicting interpretations of a theory ... **neutral tone answer ... no interpretations seen in the passage**

According to the passage, which of the following resulted from foreign investment in the United States after 1979?

- A. An increase in real interest rates ... **inversion of cause and effect ... the foreign investments resulted from surging real interest rates ... not vice versa**
- B. A decrease in the savings rate of certain other nations ... **savings rate of other nations is not mentioned in the passage**
- C. An increase in American investment abroad ... **nothing is said about how the American investment 'abroad' reacted to the scenario in question**
- D. An increase in the price of American goods abroad ... **lines 25 – 26 confirm this option word by word ... CORRECT**
- E. A decrease in the price of domestic goods sold at home ... **the decrease in the price back home was of the foreign-made goods ... no mention of how the domestic goods reacted back home in terms of price**

The author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements regarding the economists mentioned in line 1?

- A. Their beliefs are contradicted by certain economic phenomena that occurred in the United States during the 1960's and the 1980's ... **exactly ... the trends presented are to show that they contradict the beliefs of the author ... CORRECT**
- B. Their theory fails **(a bit extreme in context of the passage)** to predict under what circumstances the prices of foreign and domestic goods are likely to increase ... **the author's evidence does NOT challenge the prediction of the increase in the prices of foreign and domestic goods ... it rather challenges the beliefs of certain trends**

- C. They incorrectly identify the factors other than savings and investment rates that affect real interest rates ... **the presence of such factors is logically derived by the author ... the economists are never seen to identify any such factors at all ... the word incorrectly is not justified**
- D. Their belief is valid only for the United States economy and not necessarily for other national economies ... **the author does not contend the global application of their beliefs anywhere in the passage ... their validity for only the US economy is challenged**
- E. They overestimate the impact of the real interest rate on the national savings and investment rates ... **no over estimation is ever contended against ... only that their beliefs require a relooking into, with regard to their validity**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 24)

According to a theory advanced by researcher Paul Martin, the wave of species extinctions that occurred in North America about 11,000 years ago, at the end of the Pleistocene era, can be directly attributed to the arrival of humans, i.e., the Paleoindians, who were ancestors of modern Native Americans. However, anthropologist Shepard Krech points out that large animal species vanished even in areas where there is no evidence to demonstrate that Paleoindians hunted them. Nor were extinctions confined to large animals: small animals, plants, and insects disappeared, presumably not all through human consumption. Krech also contradicts Martin's exclusion of climatic change as an explanation by asserting that widespread climatic change did indeed occur at the end of the Pleistocene. Still, Krech attributes secondary if not primary responsibility for the extinctions to the Paleoindians, arguing that humans have produced

local extinctions elsewhere. But, according to historian

Line 20 Richard White, even the attribution of secondary responsibility may not be supported by the evidence.

White observes that Martin's thesis depends on coinciding dates for the arrival of humans and the decline of large animal species, and Krech, though

Line 25 aware that the dates are controversial, does not challenge them; yet recent archaeological discoveries are providing evidence that the date of human arrival was much earlier than 11,000 years ago.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

**The author presents the opinion / and or theories postulated by three individuals:**

**Martin:** Humans are directly (primarily) responsible for the wave of species extinctions. Martin excludes climatic change as a possible reason.

**Krech:** Humans had a secondary role to play in the wave of species extinctions. Krech questions Martin's exclusion of climatic change, noting evidence for such a change.

**White:** Questions both Martin and Krech for assigning any responsibility at all to humans for the extinctions.

**The passage however, is purely factual in nature.**

### QUESTIONS

**Which of the following is true about Martin's theory, as that theory is described in the passage?**

- A. It assumes that the Paleoindians were primarily dependent on hunting for survival ... **the word 'primarily' is not confirmed by the passage ... note that the only two inferences that one may arrive at using the context of the passage regarding Martin's theory are that 'humans are directly responsible' and 'climate change was not responsible' any other inference is an assumption on our part ... primary dependence of paleoindians is not taken up for discussion**
- B. It denies that the Pleistocene species extinctions were caused by climate change ... **this is 100% inferable from what lines 12 – 16 have to say ... the answer choice presents the exact same thing that Krech contradicts in Martin's theory ... CORRECT**
- C. It uses as evidence the fact that humans have produced local extinctions in other situations ... **the local extinctions 'ELSEWHERE' (and NOT in other situations) – lines 16**

- 19 are mentioned by Krech in the passage as a reason for assigning secondary responsibility ... no such evidence is used by Martin though
- D. It attempts to address the controversy over the date of human arrival in North America ... this is something that White attempts to do and not Martin
- E. It admits the possibility that factors other than the arrival of humans played a role in the Pleistocene extinctions ... no such admission or any sort of admission is mentioned in the passage that may be attributed to Martin's theory

In the last sentence of the passage, the author refers to "recent archaeological discoveries" most probably in order to (purpose question)

- A. **refute (implies opinion by author – wrong)** White's suggestion that neither Martin nor Krech adequately account for Paleoindians' contributions to the Pleistocene extinctions ... the author never has any sort of (even implicit) support for anyone in the passage ... also White is never at odds regarding 'the accounting for the contributions to the extinctions' by the two previous theorists ... White altogether contends that there was no contribution (direct or indirect)
- B. **cast doubt (implies negative tone 'of the author' – wrong)** on the possibility that a more definitive theory regarding the causes of the Pleistocene extinctions may be forthcoming ... no such forthcoming theory is ever mentioned in the passage ... the passage lacks any future elements
- C. **suggest (implies opinion by author – wrong)** that Martin's, Krech's, and White's theories regarding the Pleistocene extinctions are all open to question ... the passage never hints all three to be doubtful
- D. call attention to the **most (superlative – AVOID)** controversial aspect of **all the current theories (specific to general fault)** regarding the Pleistocene extinctions ... the incompatible / unwarranted (rather than controversial) aspect is already introduced by White above the sentence in question ... the sentence acts as evidence
- E. provide support for White's questioning of both Martin's and Krech's positions regarding the role of Paleoindians in the Pleistocene extinctions ... this is exactly what the function of the line is ... the support is for the White's observation in lines 22 – 26 ... **CORRECT choice**

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken Krech's objections (humans did not have a direct role & climatic change cannot be excluded) to Martin's theory?

- A. Further studies showing that the climatic change that occurred at the end of the Pleistocene era was even more severe and widespread than was previously believed ... this if anything strengthens Krech's objection regarding the exclusion of climatic change as a possible reason
- B. New discoveries indicating that Paleoindians made use of the small animals, plants, and insects that became extinct ... if this were true then humans could be said to have a more direct link with the extinctions thereby weakening Krech's contention ... **CORRECT** ... also note how the exact opposite of this option is used in the passage by Krech to present his objections

- C. Additional evidence indicating that widespread climatic change occurred not only at the end of the Pleistocene era but also in previous and subsequent eras ... **noted, however we have no information about whether the widespread changes that did occur in the previous or subsequent eras were linked with /followed by, in any manner (directly or indirectly), any extinctions ... the lack of that info fails to turn this into a weakener**
- D. Researchers' discoveries that many more species became extinct in North America at the end of the Pleistocene era than was previously believed ... **this neither strengthens nor weakens ... the exact number of species that became extinct as part of the wave is irrelevant to the argument**
- E. New discoveries establishing that both the arrival of humans in North America and the wave of Pleistocene extinctions took place much earlier than 11,000 years ago ... **this has no bearing on the connection between the arrival of humans and the observed wave ... neither strengthens nor weakens**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 25)

Behavior science courses **should** be gaining prominence in business school curricula. Recent theoretical work convincingly shows why behavioral factors such as organizational culture and employee relations are among the few remaining sources of sustainable competitive advantage in modern organizations. Furthermore, empirical evidence demonstrates clear linkages between human resource (HR) practices based in the behavioral sciences and various aspects of a firm's financial success. Additionally, some of the world's most successful organizations have made unique HR practices a core element of their overall business strategies. **Yet (CONTRAST WORD)** the behavior sciences are struggling for credibility in many business schools. Surveys show that business students often regard behavioral studies as peripheral

**Comment [RN47]:** Kind Note: should is a sure shot opinion signaller, however, only when its USAGE is PRESCRIPTIVE or OBLIGATORY in nature ... Miami should start with Lebron in all their games → This is an OPINION ... In an opinion should is used with a similar meaning to 'ought to'. If the usage of should is PROBABILISTIC in nature as is the case in this passage, then 9 times out of 10 the sentence applying its usage will be a FACT ... It's 8:30pm, they should be flying over UAE right now → This is a matter of FACT something known and not debatable.  
Note that the author here while using 'should' is not suggesting someone to act in a particular way but is expressing a TREND that in general has high probability of happening ... It is like saying ... It is past 6 in the evening, the mall should be packed right now

**Comment [RN48]:** The remaining portion of the paragraph is taken up to give reasons as to why the TREND mentioned in the first line is to have a HIGH probability of happening ... It is like giving reasons as to why they should be flying over UAE right now ...

**Comment [RN49]:** Usage not to present opinion but to present reality that runs counter to what should be happening

to the mainstream business curriculum. This perception can be explained by the fact that business students, hoping to increase their attractiveness to prospective employers, are highly sensitive to business norms and practices, and current business practices have generally been moving away from an emphasis on understanding human behavior and toward more mechanistic organizational models. Furthermore, the

Line 20

status of HR professionals within organizations tends to be lower than that of other executives.

Line 25

Students' perceptions **would** matter less **if** business schools were not increasingly dependent on external funding—form legislatures, businesses, and private

Line 30

foundations—for survival. Concerned with their institutions' ability to attract funding, administrators are increasingly targeting low-enrollment courses and degree programs for elimination.

**Author: NO OPINION**

The author at no point presents anything that he exclusively feels to exclusion of all others ... all presented data are verifiable FACTS

**Tone: NEUTRAL** (tone of the author)

The author is more concerned with identifying factors; he nowhere seems disappointed while doing so

**The author talks about how the courses in behaviour sciences should be treated based on the advantage they carry while being taught in business schools. The author then presents the real picture and picks out the responsible elements**

Kind Note: Even if one were to argue that the first paragraph of the passage presents a prediction / suggestion by the author, it seems absurd to picture the passage as the author making a prediction or a suggestion right in the beginning and then contradicting his own prediction / suggestion later on.

**Comment [RN50]:** Factor # 1 responsible for the diminished appeal

**Comment [RN51]:** Factor # 2 responsible for the diminished appeal

**Comment [RN52]:** Again the author is not prescribing a particular action here ... as in saying 'It would be wise of us to bat first'. The usage is concurrent with a conditional structure. If I were to step on the moon, I would weigh much less → a FACT ... similarly the author implies a CONDITIONAL usage of 'would' to introduce to us yet another responsible factor

**Comment [RN53]:** Factor # 3 responsible for the diminished appeal

## QUESTIONS



The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **propose (implies opinion by the author – wrong)** a particular change to business school curricula ... **the author at no point has any issues with the curricula of the schools ... not verified from the passage**
- B. **characterize** students' perceptions of business school curricula ... **characterize means to compartmentalize into several categories based on common characteristics ... the author never does this with the perceptions ... moreover students' perceptions mentioned in the passage is of behavioural studies and not of the entire curricula ... specific to general error**
- C. **predict (implies opinion by the author – wrong)** the consequences of a particular change in business school curricula ... **the only sentence discussing consequences in the passage is in lines 27 – 30 and that too to identify the third responsible factor**
- D. **challenge (implies opinion by the author – wrong)** one explanation for the **failure (negative tone)** to adopt a particular change in business school curricula ... **there is no adoption of any changes in the passage let alone its failure**
- E. **identify** factors that have affected the prestige of a particular field in business school curricula ... **neutral tone answer choice ... exact match ... this is what the author arrives at doing eventually in the passage ... CORRECT**

The author of the passage mentions “empirical evidence” in the highlighted text primarily in order to (purpose question)

- A. **question (implies opinion by the author – wrong)** the value of certain commonly used HR practices ... **firstly there are no explicitly mentioned HR practices to verify ‘certain commonly used’ in the answer choice ... more than questioning the author actually seems in favour of HR practices employing behavioural science**
- B. **illustrate** a point about the methodology behind recent theoretical work in the behavioral sciences ... **there is only a mention of recent theoretical work (lines 2 & 3) ... there is never any methodology behind the work that is taken up in the passage**
- C. **support** a claim about the importance that business schools should place on courses in the behavioral sciences ... **this answer choice is an EXACT word by word reiteration of the claim made in the first line of the passage ... the entire content of the remaining para (para # 1) is presented in support of the first line of the passage ... CORRECT**
- D. **draw** a distinction between two different factors that affect the financial success of a business ... **the factors taken up by the passage are the ones responsible for the diminished appeal of a particular field ... the author never takes up the kind of factors mentioned in this answer choice**
- E. **explain** how the behavioral sciences have shaped HR practices in some business organizations ... **shaped here means influenced ... to explain HOW ‘X’ has influenced or shaped ‘Y’, you have to mention what Y was prior to the introduction of X as well as what it became after the introduction ... such a framework is nowhere followed in the passage**

The author of the passage suggests which of the following about HR professionals (mentioned at only one place in the passage – line 25) in business organizations?

- A. They are generally skeptical about the value of mechanistic organizational models ... **the HR professionals are never seen (even implicitly) commenting on any models**
- B. Their work **increasingly (extreme as per the context of the passage)** relies on an understanding of human behaviour ... **their work's reliance is not mentioned in the passage**
- C. Their work generally has little effect on the financial performance of those organizations ... **again, no comment whatsoever has been made on their work in the passage ... kindly remember we're talking of HR professionals and NOT HR practices**
- D. Their status relative to other business executives affects the attitude of business school students toward the behavioral sciences ... **lines 15 – 17 state the attitude of the students & lines 24 – 26 talk of their relative status ... now according to the passage lines 24 – 26 are one of the reasons (affects) for the attitude in lines 15 – 17 ... thus justified ... CORRECT**
- E. Their practices are unaffected by the relative prominence of the behavioral sciences within business schools ... **no such connection is ever established in the passage**

The author of the passage considers each of the following to be a factor that has contributed to the prevailing attitude in business schools toward the behavioral sciences EXCEPT (you're simply required to spot the factors in the passage for this question)

- A. business students' sensitivity to current business norms and practices ... **lines 19 – 21 confirm this statement**
- B. the relative status of HR professionals among business executives ... **lines 24 – 26 confirm this statement**
- C. business schools' reliance on legislatures, businesses, and private foundations for funding ... **lines 27 – 30 confirm this statement**
- D. businesses' tendency to value mechanistic organizational models over an understanding of human behavior ... **lines 21 – 24 confirm this statement**
- E. theoretical work on the relationship between behavioral factors and a firm's financial performance ... **firstly the passage does not say what relationship is the 'theoretical work' mentioned in lines 2 & 3 based on ... the theoretical work mentioned is to support the assertion made in the first line of the passage and not as a factor stated in the question stem ... thus CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 26)

Most pre-1990 literature on businesses' use of information technology (IT)—defined as any form of

computer based information system—focused on spectacular IT successes and reflected a general optimism concerning IT’s potential as a resource for creating competitive advantage. But toward the end of the 1980’s, some economists spoke of a “productivity paradox”: **despite huge IT investments**, most notably in the service sectors, **productivity stagnated**. In the

retail industry, for example, in which IT had been widely adopted during the 1980’s, productivity (average output per hour) rose at an average annual rate of 1.1 percent between 1973 and 1989, compared with 2.4 percent in the preceding 25-year period.

Proponents of IT argued that it takes both time and a critical mass of investment for IT to yield benefits, and some suggested that growth figures for the 1990’s proved these benefits were finally being realized. They also argued that measures of productivity ignore what would have happened without investments in IT—productivity gains might have been even lower. There were even claims that IT had improved the performance of the service sector significantly, although macroeconomic measures of productivity did

not reflect the improvement.

**But (CONTRAST WORD)** some observers questioned why, if IT had conferred economic value, it did not produce direct competitive advantages for individual firms. Resource-based theory offers an answer, asserting that, in general, firms gain competitive advantages by accumulating resources that are economically

**Comment [RN54]:** Findings end up running contrary to what should otherwise be expected in general ...

**Comment [RN55]:** The author begins putting up various viewpoints (not of his own) that explain the paradox mentioned above ...

**Comment [RN56]:** The author in this para takes the opportunity to present a theory that clarifies the contention that some may have regarding the explanation offered in the previous para ... the final paragraph thus acts to substantiate the explanation for the observed paradox and nothing else ...

valuable, relatively scarce, and not easily replicated.  
According to a recent study of retail firms, which  
confirmed that IT has become pervasive and relatively  
easy to acquire, IT by itself appeared to have  
conferred little advantage. In fact, though little  
evidence of any direct effect was found, the frequent  
negative correlations between IT and performance  
suggested that IT had (50) probably weakened some  
firms' competitive positions. However, firms' human  
resources, in and of themselves, did explain improved  
performance, and some firms gained IT-related  
advantages by merging IT with complementary  
resources, particularly human resources. The findings  
support the notion, founded in resource-based theory,  
that competitive advantages do not arise from easily  
replicated resources, no matter how impressive or  
economically valuable they may be, but from complex,  
intangible resources.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces some economists talking of a paradox that has in general been observed ... the author introduces the proponents' viewpoints in an attempt to explain the reasons behind the observed paradox ... the author in the end takes up a particular contention with one aspect of the explanation above and presents a theory that shows the contention to be misdirected ... the author in a way is substantiating the explanations

The passage is purely factual in nature.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. describing a resource and indicating various methods used to study it ... **describe implies to give an account of (whatever you're describing) say by explaining its various features ... IT has not been treated in such a manner in the passage ... moreover, the resource mentioned in line 5 is mentioned with regard to an earlier**

optimism and not with regard to the main point of the passage ... there are no methods discussed in the passage

- B. presenting a theory and offering an **opposing (implied criticism)** point of view ... **the theory presented anywhere in the passage is in the second paragraph to clarify a contention of some observers ... the only viewpoints introduced in the passage are of the proponents and are thus in favour of IT**
- C. providing an explanation for unexpected findings ... **the author does indeed introduce the paradox in the beginning of the passage and then presents viewpoints later on (of the proponents) in order to present reasons behind the OBSERVED paradox (the unexpected finding) ... word by word justified ... CORRECT**
- D. demonstrating why a particular theory is unfounded ... **the theory introduced is to substantiate the explanations for the paradox by doing away with a point of contention raised by a few observers ... the theory itself is never challenged**
- E. **resolving (implies positive tone)** a disagreement regarding the uses of a technology ... **to resolve is to take up two seemingly disparate facts and demonstrate their compatibility by introducing a third fact ... the passage does not conform to any such structure ... usefulness rather than uses of IT is what the entire passage is about**

The passage suggests that proponents of resource-based theory would be likely to explain IT's inability to produce direct competitive advantages for individual firms by pointing out that

- A. IT is not a resource that is difficult to obtain ... **lines 30 – 32 confirm that for a resource to confer direct competitive advantage, it is required of the resource to be relatively scarce ... exactly what this option says ... CORRECT**
- B. IT is not an economically valuable resource ... **lines 30 – 32 confirm that the theory asserts the resource to be economically valuable for direct competitive advantage ... 180 degrees answer**
- C. IT is a complex, intangible resource ... **a complex intangible resource is bound to produce direct competitive advantage – lines 48 – 49 ... 180 degrees answer**
- D. economic progress has resulted from IT **only (extreme option - AVOID)** in the service sector ... **the resource based theory does not apply to one particular sector alone and hence proponents would imply no such thing**
- E. changes brought about by IT cannot be detected by macroeconomic measures ... **lines 21 – 25 confirm that the CLAIMS of improvement via IT was not captured by macroeconomic measures ... 'changes' & 'cannot be detected' make a general rule out of the information in lines 21 – 25 which is unwarranted ... moreover the theory implies nothing about any sort of measures**

The author of the passage discusses productivity in the retail industry in the first paragraph primarily in order to (purpose question)

- A. **suggest (implies opinion by the author)** a way in which IT can be used to create a competitive advantage ... **this being a location specific question, competitive advantage is something mentioned way below the retail industry example ... there is**

thus little connection between the two ... or the two (the example & a way in which ...) are totally unrelated

- B. provide an illustration of the “productivity paradox” ... notice how the author gives a brief definition of the paradox in lines 8 – 9 and begins his immediately succeeding sentence with the words ‘for example’ to illustrate the definition above ... CORRECT
- C. emphasize the practical value of the introduction of IT ... the author exemplifies stagnation (and not any sort of value) through the discussion of the retail industry ... this is 180 degrees
- D. cite an industry in which productivity did not stagnate during the 1980’s ... the discussion is to exemplify stagnation and not an exception ... 180 degrees
- E. counter (implies negative tone) the argument that IT could potentially create competitive advantage ... there is no such argument presented in the passage ... the above is mentioned as a prediction in the texts prior to 1990’s ... the author is never seen countering this prediction but only explaining why such a thing is not possible once it is brought up by the ‘some observers’ in the second para

According to the passage, most pre-1990 literature on businesses’ use of IT included which of the following?

- A. Recommendations regarding effective ways to use IT to gain competitive advantage ... recommendations is not verified from the context of the passage ... gaining competitive advantage was a prediction made in such literature
- B. Explanations of the advantages and disadvantages of adopting IT ... no such pros and cons explanation is confirmed from the context of the passage
- C. Information about ways in which IT combined with human resources could be used to increase competitive advantage ... this is a piece of evidence that the author cites in the latter half of the passage to expand on the resource based theory ... totally unwarranted answer option
- D. A warning regarding the negative effect on competitive advantage that would occur if IT were not adopted ... no such warning tone is ever picked up on anywhere in the passage
- E. A belief in the likelihood of increased competitive advantage for firms using IT ... lines 3 – 6 confirm this optimism word by word ... CORRECT

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 27)

Recent feminist scholarship concerning the United States in the 1920’s **challenges** earlier interpretations that assessed the twenties in terms of the unkept

**Comment [RN57]:** Implies an opinion on part of the scholarship



“promises” of the women’s suffrage movement. This

Line 5 new scholarship disputes the long-held view that  
because a women’s voting bloc did not materialize  
after women gained the right to vote in 1920, suffrage  
failed to produce long-term political gains for women.

**Comment [RN58]:** Again implies an opinion on part of the scholarship ...

These feminist scholars also challenge the old view

Line 10 that pronounced suffrage a failure for not delivering on  
the promise that the women’s vote would bring about  
moral, corruption-free governance. Asked whether  
women’s suffrage was a failure, these scholars cite the  
words of turn-of-the-century social reformer Jane

**Comment [RN59]:** Again implies an opinion on part of the scholarship ... thus all the author does in the first paragraph is present the opinion / feelings of the recent feminist scholarship ... purely factual

Line 15 Addams, “Why don’t you ask if suffrage in general is  
failing?”

In some ways, however (CONTRAST WORD), these scholars still present

the 1920’s as a period of decline. After suffrage, they  
argue, the feminist movement lost its cohesiveness,

Line 20 and gender consciousness waned. After the mid-  
1920’s, few successes could be claimed by feminist  
reformers: little could be seen in the way of legislative  
victories.

**Comment [RN60]:** The contrast word rather than presenting an opinion of the author introduces us to another factual paragraph that runs counter to the first factual paragraph ... the second paragraph presents the contrast in the feelings of the recent feminine scholarship towards that are opposite of what the author has presented in paragraph 1 ... purely factual

During this decade, however (CONTRAST WORD), there was intense

Line 25 activism aimed at achieving increased autonomy for  
women, broadening the spheres within which they  
lived their daily lives. Women’s organizations worked  
to establish opportunities for women: they strove to  
secure for women the full entitlements of citizenship,

Line 30 including the right to hold office and the right to serve  
on juries.

**Comment [RN61]:** The CONTRAST WORD beginning this passage functions to contrast the entire content that precedes it i.e. paras 1 & 2. Paras 1 & 2 present the VIEW of the recent feminine scholarship throughout, thus this paragraph by contrasting the view of the recent feminine scholarship presents another VIEW or an alternate VIEW. Looking at this para in the context of entire passage it is just a different view that the author presents. Do note that the author still presents hard factual evidence here but no input of his own

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author takes up the first two paragraphs of the passage to present the feelings of the recent feminist scholarship regarding women's suffrage and contrasts that view in the third para by presenting an alternate angle to VIEW the picture ... the last para attempts to correspond contrast to the VIEW in the second para that gives off a scent of a period of decline

The passage is purely factual in nature.

**QUESTIONS**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. providing evidence (red flag – AVOID) indicating that feminist reformers of the 1920's failed (negative tone answer) to reach some of their goals ... 'some of their goals' is not confirmed from the passage ... there is never any mention of any goals ... even the evidence provided in the last para runs counter to this answer choice ... 180 degrees
- B. presenting scholarship that contrasts suffragist "promises" with the historical realities of the 1920's ... firstly there are no promises mentioned in the passage ... there is only a mention of the word promises and that too in regard to how the earlier scholarship had interpreted the 1920's ... the historical realities mentioned in the third passage are to present a second angle to VIEW things no to present any contrast with any promises
- C. discussing recent scholarship concerning the achievements of women's suffrage during the 1920's and presenting an alternative view of those achievements ... this is exactly what the author does taking up the three passage space ... feminists' + alternate view ... CORRECT
- D. outlining (red flag – AVOID) recent findings concerning events leading to suffrage for women in the 1920's and presenting a challenge (negative tone) to those findings ... bullet list answer ... there are no findings only interpretations / feelings ... and certainly no build up ('leading to') to suffrage discussed in the passage
- E. providing support (positive tone) for a traditional view of the success of feminist attempts to increase gender consciousness among women during the 1920's ... the answer choice has no mention of the word suffrage which pretty much forms the crux of the entire passage ... the first passage negates the traditional view rather than supporting it ... 'success of feminist ATTEMPTS' can be least justified given the context of the passage

It can be inferred that the author of the passage disagrees with the "new scholarship" mentioned in the highlighted text regarding the

- A. degree to which the "promises" of the suffrage movement remained unkept ... there is never any measure of the degree of unkept promises of the suffrage movement ... the mention of 'unkept promises' is used as a basis for the earlier interpretations (line 2) ... the author agreeing or disagreeing is irrelevant here for no such degree exists

- B. degree to which suffrage for women improved the morality of governance ... **again such a degree (of the improvement in the morality of governance) cannot be confirmed from the context of the passage**
- C. degree to which the 1920's represented a period of decline for the feminist movement ... **As the author begins the third paragraph with the CONTRAST WORD 'however' he hints us that he's presenting something contrary to what is presented just above that point (i.e. the second para) ... the second para has the author mention that despite the feminists' presentation of the women's suffrage in the 1920s in a positive light the feminists end up portraying an overall negative picture ... since this is what he contrasts in the third paragraph it may be inferred that the author disagrees with the extent to which the feminists represent the overall negative picture of the suffrage in the 1920s ... inferable and therefore CORRECT**
- D. degree of legislative success achieved by feminist reformers during the 1920's ... **legislative victories is a piece of evidence (lines 22 – 23) that the author says the recent scholars use to present their declining VIEW of the 1920s period ... the author does not disagree with the evidence that they cite but with the declining picture they paint using the piece of evidence**
- E. accuracy of the view that a women's voting bloc did not materialize once suffrage was achieved ... **this is again a piece of evidence that the traditional scholars use and the picture they paint using this piece of evidence is disagreed on by the recent scholars ... the author does not even participate here**

**The purpose of the second paragraph** (author's purpose of writing the second paragraph) **of the passage is to**

- A. **suggest (signifies opinion)** a reason why suffragist "promises" were not kept ... **the mention of 'unkept promises' is used as a basis for the earlier interpretations (line 2) ... the unkept promises as such are never reasoned as to why they were such**
- B. contrast suffragist "promises" with the reality of the 1920's ... **again the promises as such (as to what they actually comprise) are never mentioned as to what they were ... to contrast you need to know what they exactly were**
- C. **deplore (extreme ... implies strong condemnation ... strongly negative tone - AVOID)** the lack of successful feminist reform in 1920's ... **the author is never seen lamenting in any such manner**
- D. explain a view held by feminist scholars ... **the author takes up the first two passages to write the feminists view ... para 1 with their appreciative view ... para 2 with their slightly negative view but a view nevertheless ... CORRECT**
- E. answer the question asked by Jane Addams ... **absolutely wrong ... the question she asks is a rhetorical question**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 28)

By the sixteenth century, the Incas of South America ruled an empire that extended along the Pacific coast and Andean highlands from what is now Ecuador to central Chile. While most of the Incas were self-

Line 5 sufficient agriculturists, the inhabitants of the highland basins above 9,000 feet were constrained by the kinds of crops they could cultivate. Whereas 95 percent of the principal Andean food crops can be cultivated below 3,000 feet, only 20 percent reproduce readily

Line 10 above 9,000 feet. Given this unequal resource distribution, highland Incas needed access to the products of lower, warmer climatic zones in order to enlarge the variety and quantity of their foodstuffs. In most of the preindustrial world, the problem of

Line 15 different resource distribution was resolved by long-distance trade networks over which the end consumer exercised little control. Although the peoples of the Andean highlands participated in such networks, they relied primarily on the maintenance of autonomous

Line 20 production forces in as many ecological zones as possible. The commodities produced in these zones were extracted, processed, and transported entirely by members of a single group.

This strategy of direct access to a maximum number  
Line 25 of ecological zones by a single group is called vertical economy. Even today, one can see Andean communities maintaining use rights simultaneously to

pasturelands above 12,000 feet, to potato fields in basins over 9,000 feet, and to plots of warm-land crops in regions below 6,000 feet. This strategy has two principal variations. The first is “compressed verticality,” in which a single village resides in a location that permits easy access to closely located ecological zones. Different crop zones or pasturelands

are located within a few days walk of the parent community. Community members may reside temporarily in one of the lower zones to manage the extraction of products unavailable in the homeland. In the second variation, called the “vertical archipelago,”

the village exploits resources in widely dispersed locations, constituting a series of independent production “islands.” In certain pre-Columbian Inca societies, groups were sent from the home territory to establish permanent satellite communities or colonies

in distant tropical forests or coastal locations. There the colonists grew crops and extracted products for their own use and for transshipment back to their high-altitude compatriots. In contrast to the compressed verticality system, in this system,

commodities rather than people circulated through the archipelago.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage is a fact by fact narration / account of how a particular civilization in the pre-industrial world solved its problem of unequal resource (particularly agricultural) by a strategy uncommon at the time. The author gives the model a ‘general’ term and discusses its two variants ... the passage is purely factual in nature.

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, which of the following is true about the preindustrial long-distance trade networks mentioned in the highlighted text?

- A. They were not used extensively in most of the preindustrial world ... **the sentence in lines 13 – 17 confirm the exact opposite of what this option says ... 180 DEGREES**
- B. They were used to some extent by the people of the Andean highlands ... **lines 17 – 18 confirm that such networks did see the Andean peoples' participation ... CORRECT**
- C. They were not an effective means of solving the problem of different resource distribution ... **the only feature that the author mention of such networks is that the allowed much limited control by the end user ... their effectivity is never discussed**
- D. They necessitated the establishment of permanent satellite communities in widely dispersed locations ... **the permanent satellite communities are talked of in the second para – much below the location where the trade networks are mentioned in the passage ... such establishment is characteristic of the second variant of the vertical economy discussed ... something completely different from the trade networks**
- E. They were useful only for the transportation of products from warm climatic zones ... **no such unidirectional advantage is ever taken up or mentioned in the passage**

According to the passage, the inhabitants of the Andean highlands resolved the problem of unequal resource distribution primarily in which of the following ways?

- A. Following self-sufficient agricultural practices ... **self-sufficient agricultural practices were a possibility for the lowlanders not the highlanders ... only 20% of the crops could be cultivated at the altitude making such practices impossible**
- B. Increasing commodity production from the ecological zones in the highland basins ... **nothing in the passage suggests that an increase in the commodity production in the already existing zones was the solution to unequal resource distribution ... the ecological zone in the basin (mentioned in the passage) are the potato fields in lines 28 – 29 ... these fields have present day reference in the passage ... we do not know for certain if the same basins were a source of non-producible commodities for the highlanders in the 16<sup>th</sup> century**
- C. Increasing their reliance on long-distance trade networks ... **lines 17 – 21 confirm that the primary reliance of such people to solve the problem of unequal resource distribution was on vertical economy rather than the common strategy of trade networks**
- D. Establishing satellite communities throughout the Andean highlands ... **the satellite communities mentioned in the passage are to exemplify the second variant of a vertical economy ... moreover in the example it is linked with pre Columbian Incas and not necessarily the Andean highlanders**
- E. Establishing production forces in ecological zones beyond their parent communities ... **consider lines 31 – 36 & lines 18 – 21 and each word of the option above becomes inferable from the passage ... CORRECT**



The passage suggests that as a way of addressing the problem of different resource distribution in the preindustrial world, the practice of vertical economy differed from the use of long-distance trade networks in that vertical economy allowed

- A. commodities to reach the end consumer faster ... **speed is never taken up as a comparison point between the two anywhere in the passage**
- B. a wide variety of agricultural goods to reach the end consumer ... **again variety is also never taken up as a differentiating point between the two models**
- C. a single group to maintain control over the production process ... **lines 15 – 17 confirm that the end user exercised little control implying a hierarchy chain through which the commodity progressed before reaching the end user ... more like a chain of brokers – this is why the author emphasizes the vertical economy to be a system of buying directly from the producer ... lines 21 – 23 confirm that a single group exercised control over the production processes ... 100% inferable ... CORRECT**
- D. greater access to commodities from lower, warmer climatic zones ... **the differentiating point in the passage between the two is of DIRECT access and not 'greater' access ... the comparison is never drawn for one particular zone of production say the lower zone**
- E. greater use of self-sufficient agricultural techniques ... **the degree or the extent of usage of the techniques is never said to be greater for one than for the other**

The passage suggests that for an Andean highland village attempting to resolve the problem of unequal resource distribution, the strategy known as compressed verticality (the first variant) **would probably be inappropriate** for which of the following situations?

- A. The village's location is such that it is difficult for the village to participate in long-distance trade networks ... **long distance trade network participation has absolutely no bearing on the selection of one variant of vertical economy over the other**
- B. The village does not have the resources to establish permanent satellite communities in production zones beyond the home community ... **the establishment of permanent satellites is part of the second variant ... the option thus rules out the possibility of having the second variant making compressed verticality suitable**
- C. The warm-land crop regions nearest to the village are all below 6,000 feet ... **the village location itself being unknown makes it hard to establish whether the warm crop regions are within a days walk from the village or not ... uncertain scenario**
- D. The location of the village does not provide ready access to an adequate variety of ecological zones ... **lines 34 – 36 confirm that the village location should permit ready access to the ecological zones ... with the Pasteur lands and crop fields lying at a day's walk distance ... this option states information exactly opposite making the second variant more suitable to ensure adequate variety of ecological zones ... CORRECT**
- E. The nearest crop production zones are located below the village, while the nearest pasturelands are located above the village ... **again, such a structure as per the passage has no bearing on judging the applicability of one variant over the other**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 29)

Among the myths taken as fact by the environmental managers of most corporations is the belief that environmental regulations affect all competitors in a given industry uniformly. In reality, regulatory costs—and therefore compliance—fall unevenly, economically disadvantaging some companies and benefiting others.

Line 5

For example, a plant situated near a number of larger noncompliant competitors is less likely to attract the attention of local regulators than is an isolated plant,

Line 10

and less attention means lower costs. Additionally, large plants can spread compliance costs such as waste treatment across a larger revenue base; on the other hand, some smaller plants may not even be subject to certain provisions such as permit or reporting requirements by virtue of their size. Finally, older production technologies often continue to generate toxic wastes that were not regulated when the technology was first adopted. New regulations have imposed extensive compliance costs on

Line 20

companies still using older industrial coal-fired burners that generate high sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide outputs, for example, whereas new facilities generally avoid processes that would create such waste products. By realizing that they have discretion and

Line 25

that not all industries are affected equally by environmental regulation, environmental managers can help their companies to achieve a competitive

**Comment [RN62]:** An author stating managers (executives entrusted with high responsibility) acting or accepting false beliefs signals off contempt on part of the author for the environmental managers. A manager is expected to take a reasoned and logical call not one based on false beliefs ... slightly negative tone ... implied criticism ...

**Comment [RN63]:** The author presents evidence to prove just how wrong the managers can be and just how devastating their call can be when based on the one myth in question ... implied criticism ... NEGATIVE TONE

edge by anticipating regulatory pressure and exploring

all possibilities for addressing how changing

Line 30 regulations will affect their companies specifically.

**Author:** OPINION (suggestive in nature)

**Tone:** NEGATIVE (implied criticism)

This passage is implied criticism with a suggestion towards the end.

The author starts off the passage with a slightly condescending tone accusing the managers to take a myth (false belief) for a confirmed fact and acting accordingly. The author then explains (with examples) the falseness of the myth and ends the passage making a suggestion as to how the managers should approach the issue of environmental regulations.

**Comment [RN64]:** Suggestion put forth by the author in the end ... this is what the author believes / feels can help improve the situation for the managers ... this is the OPINION of the author.

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following hypothetical examples would best illustrate the point the author makes in the last sentence of the passage?

- A. Believing its closest competitor is about to do the same, a plant reduces its output of a toxic chemical at great cost in order to comply with environmental regulations ... **this is an example of blindly following the competition with the assumption that the same regulation is going to affect everyone in a similar manner ... 180 degrees to the point the author is trying to make**
- B. In the face of new environmental regulations, a plant maintains its production methods and passes the costs of compliance on to its customers ... **completely irrelevant ... has no bearing whether the myth was behind the reaction to the regulation or was there proper research as to how to best absorb the costs of the regulations**
- C. A plant's manager learns of a competitor's methods of lowering environmental compliance costs but is reluctant to implement those methods ... **RELUCTANCE to implement the same methods does not mean that the same methods have not been applied and that the motive behind applying the same methods was not guided primarily by the myth ... the reluctance could be because of some copyright infringement issues for all we know ... the option does not assuredly rule out that the myth was not the primary guiding factor**
- D. Having learned of an upcoming environmental ban on a certain chemical, a company designs its new plant to employ processes that avoid use of that chemical ... **the option has no mention of following any other company and has a clear demonstration of how studying all possibilities to best absorb the effect of the regulations has guided the company to take decisions on its future plan of action ... EXACT point of the author ... CORRECT**
- E. A plant attempts to save money by refusing to comply with environmental laws ... **refusal to comply is not part of the discussion at hand**

According to the passage, which of the following statements about sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide outputs is true? (typical location based question)

- A. Older production technologies cannot be adapted so as to reduce production of these outputs as waste products ... **the passage talks about the relative effects of regulations on the two chemicals on industries employing newer and older production technologies ... the passage in its course of doing so makes no such comment as mentioned in the answer choice**
- B. Under the **most recent (superlative use - AVOID)** environmental regulations, industrial plants are no longer permitted to produce these outputs ... **the passage has no mention of any permission regarding the production of these as outputs ... only that high compliance costs usually follow for plants producing the above two as waste products**
- C. Although these outputs are environmentally hazardous, some plants still generate them as waste products despite the high compliance costs they impose ... **the above two chemicals as waste products in production are part of an example (the final example) that shows the relative effects of environmental regulations on different industries ... now in order for there to be a difference between how this regulation effects the newer technology employing industries and the older technology employing industries, it has to follow that some plants do find it more costly to comply with the regulations as they still generate these waste products despite high costs on compliance ... moreover lines 16 – 18 are a direct reiteration of the option ... CORRECT**
- D. **Many (extreme as per the context of the passage)** older plants have developed innovative technological processes that reduce the amounts of these outputs generated as waste products ... **no innovative technologies have been talked of in the passage ... and there is no mention of reducing the amounts of the two above ... only that the newer facilities are able to avoid their production**
- E. Since the production processes that generate these outputs are less costly than alternative processes, these less expensive processes are sometimes adopted despite their acknowledged environmental hazards ... **nothing of this sort – cost consideration being a driver for certain facilities to still employ hazardous waste generating processes – anywhere in the passage**

The passage suggests which of the following concerning the relationship between the location of a plant and the compliance costs it faces?

- A. A plant is less likely to face high compliance costs if it is located near larger plants that are in violation of environmental regulations ... **lines 7 – 10 confirm this option word by word ... CORRECT**
- B. An isolated plant is less likely to draw the attention of environmental regulators, resulting in lower compliance costs ... **as per lines 7 – 9 this is directly opposite of what the passage implies in its first example ... 180 DEGREES answer**
- C. A large plant that is located near other large facilities will most probably be forced to pay high compliance costs ... **size is never mentioned to be a factor that works in conjunction with the location of a plant to determine the compliance costs it might face ... the correct factor is other noncompliant plants**

- D. A small plant that is located near a number of larger plants will be forced to absorb some of its neighbors' compliance costs ... **nothing of such sort – absorbing each other's compliance costs – is mentioned in the passage ... size is not a consideration**
- E. A plant will often escape high compliance costs if it is located far away from environmental regulatory agencies ... **distance from the regulatory agencies is not a part of the passage anywhere**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 30)

In the 1930's and 1940's, African American industrial workers in the southern United States, who constituted 80 percent of the unskilled factory labor force there, strongly supported unionization. While the American Federation of Labor (AFL) either excluded African Americans or maintained racially segregated unions, the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) organized integrated unions nationwide on the basis of a stated policy of equal rights for all, and African American unionists provided the CIO's backbone. **Yet (CONTRAST WORD) it can be argued** that through contracts negotiated and enforced by White union members, unions—CIO unions not excluded—**were often instrumental** in maintaining the occupational **segregation** and other forms of **racial discrimination** that kept African Americans socially and **economically oppressed** during this period. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, recognizing employers' power over workers as a central factor in African Americans' economic marginalization, African American workers saw the need to join with White workers in seeking

**Comment [RN65]:** Participation in and / or formation of UNIONS ...

**Comment [RN66]:** The contrast word YET functions to sort of put a lid on everything up till this point by in a way SUMMARIZING that all the facts presented till this point present an angle through which one might view things to say that unionization was anything but beneficial ... the author sort of presents the most likely conclusion that one may arrive at. By saying 'it can be argued' the author simply presents one side of the argument regarding how useful the unions were to the cause of the African Americans ... this one side / face is the VIEWPOINT that the author intends to COUNTER at this point on ... note the word 'however' showing up next ...



change despite White unionists' toleration of or support for racial discrimination. The **persistent** efforts of African American unionists **eventually paid off (implied pragmatism)**: many became **highly effective (implied respect)** organizers, gaining the respect of even racist White unionists by **winning (constructive attitude)** victories for White as well as African American workers. African American unionists thus **succeeded (implied pragmatism)** in strengthening the unions while using them as instruments of African Americans' economic **empowerment (implied pragmatism)**.

**Comment [RN67]:** Note the use of filler adjectives to emphasize the nature of actions by the African American unionists ...

**Comment [RN68]:** Through his own angle / perspective the author presents a beneficiary picture as far as the participation in the unions is concerned ...

**Author:** OPINION (conclusion / stance / judgement arrived at)

**Tone:** POSITIVE (implied pragmatism)

The author starts off with the historical topic of participation of African Americans in unions ... the author first presents a perspective that is implied (by the author) to be most commonly argued for considering the facts of the historical period in a particular light ... the author then presents his account of how he sees the things to have worked for the African Americans ... i.e. his VIEWPOINT ... the passage has a structure of the sort where Mr. X says to you – you might think this is fake, however this is a real tiffany diamond – such is typical of a PERSUASIVE attitude.

**Comment [RN69]:** This is what the author arrives at ... this is a sort of judgement reached ... this is how the author personally sees things as far as the participation of the African Americans in the unions is concerned ... this thus summarizes the OPINION or the MAIN POINT ... as to why the author took the trouble to inform us of all that he says in the beginning of the paragraph ...

## QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- Demonstrating (no opinion verb)** that unions **failed (negative tone)** to address the concerns of African American workers during a particular period ... **the concerns as such are not mentioned in the passage ... you have to know what the concerns were to demonstrate that they haven't been addressed**
- arguing (implies opinion)** that African American workers' participation in unions during a particular period was ultimately **beneficial (positive tone)** to them ... **this is exactly what the author is doing in the passage ... argue in favour of the advantageous nature of the unions with regard to the conditions of the African Americans ... CORRECT**
- contrasting (no opinion verb)** the treatment of African American workers by two different labor organizations during a particular period ... **neutral tone answer ... the passage does not take more than one line to lay out the contrast ... nowhere else in the passage is there anything to do with any such contrast**
- giving (no opinion verb)** reasons for the success of African American unionists in winning victories for both African American and White workers during a particular



period ... **'why did they succeed' – the exact reasons are not a part of the passage ... this moreover seems more of a bullet list answer – AVOID**

- E. **questioning (implies negative tone of the author)** one explanation for the attitudes of African American workers toward unionization during a particular period ... **no such explanations accounting for the attitudes are given in the passage first of all ... least of all being questioned directly by the author**

**According to the passage, which of the following was true of many racist White unionists (in line 25) during the period discussed in the passage?**

- A. Their attitudes toward African American union organizers changed once they recognized that the activities of these organizers were serving workers' interests ... **lines 24 – 27 confirm this option word by word ... winning victories is serving workers' interests ... perfectly inferable ... CORRECT**
- B. They were a powerful element in the southern labor movement because they constituted the majority of the unskilled factory labor force in the southern United States ... **lines 1 – 3 confirm that the African Americans constituted the majority of the unskilled labor force ... 180 degrees answer ... the claim powerful element is not confirmed from the passage**
- C. They persisted in opposing the CIO's adoption of a stated policy of equal rights for all ... **any persistence whatsoever is mentioned on part of the African American unionists and never on part of anyone else ... CIO's policy is never seen to face any sort of opposition anywhere in the passage**
- D. Their primary goal was to strengthen the negotiating power of the unions through increasing White union membership ... **no such information is confirmed from the passage ... the goals if any of the white unionists is not a part of the context of the passage**
- E. Their advocacy of racial discrimination hampered unions in their efforts to gain more power for workers ... **the unionists relationship with their respective employers (in the sense how much power were they able to garner for the workers they represented) is nowhere a part of the passage ... the option states something completely out of scope**

**The author of the passage suggests which of the following about African American workers who participated in union activities in the 1930's and 1940's?**

- A. They believed that the elimination of discrimination within unions was a necessary first step toward the achievement of economic advancement for African Americans ... **the African Americans are never shown to have any strategic (step wise) approach and that too towards eliminating discrimination ... the only goal of the African Americans mentioned in the passage is economic empowerment for their fellow African Americans**
- B. They belonged **exclusively (extreme - AVOID)** to CIO unions because they were excluded from AFL unions ... **firstly the passage says that they were EITHER excluded OR forced to maintain separate unions ... moreover this information does not keep them from being part of some other unions**

- C. They believed that the economic advancement of African American workers depended on organized efforts to empower all workers ... **line 20 stresses the fact that the African Americans realized the power of organized efforts – as in unions ... lines 27 – 30 which mention the African Americans to have succeeded in their goals talk of workers' economic empowerment ... their belief as presented in the answer option can thus be inferable ... CORRECT**
- D. Some of them advocated the organization of separate African American unions because of discriminatory practices in the AFL and the CIO ... **these 'some' that are mentioned in this option are never seen to share this or any other opinion anywhere in the passage ... nowhere is the advocating of separate unions attributed to the African Americans**
- E. Many of them did not believe that White unionists in CIO unions would tolerate or support racial discrimination against African American workers ... **the fact that the tolerance and the support of racial discrimination among the white unionists in the CIO turned out to be a shocker for the 'Many African Americans' can nowhere be inferred from the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 31)

Scientists studying the physiology of dinosaurs have long debated whether dinosaurs were warm- or cold-blooded. **Those who suspect they were warm-blooded** point out that dinosaur bone is generally fibro-lamellar in nature; because fibro-lamellar bone is formed quickly, the bone fibrils, or filaments, are laid down haphazardly. Consistent with their rapid growth rate, warm-blooded animals, such as birds and mammals, tend to produce fibro-lamellar bone, whereas reptiles, which are slow-growing and cold-blooded, generally produce bone in which fibrils are laid down parallel to each other. **Moreover**, like the bone of birds and mammals, dinosaur bone tends to be highly vascularized, or filled with blood vessels. These

**Comment [RN70]:** Notice how the passage talks of only the ones favouring the warm-blooded hypothesis ... the passage is not bothered with presenting the other side of the debate – i.e. what the cold blooded proponents have to point out to support their belief ... this is thus NOT a contrast passage presenting the two sides of the debate

**Comment [RN71]:** Acts as a relay point further accentuating the passage in the direction in favour of warm-blooded hypothesis proponents ...

Line 15 characteristics, first recognized in the 1930's, were documented in the 1960's by de Ricqlès, who found highly vascularized, fibro-lamellar bone in several groups of dinosaurs. In the 1970's, Bakker cited these characteristics as evidence for the warm-bloodedness

Line 20 of dinosaurs. **Although (CONTRAST WORD)** de Ricqlès urged caution, arguing for an intermediate type of dinosaur physiology, a generation of paleontologists has come to believe that dinosaur bone is mammalianlike.

**Comment [RN72]:** In a passage full of data siding with proponents of the warm-blooded hypothesis ... the contrast word sets Mr. Ricqlès apart attaching a SKEPTIC tone to him ...

**Comment [RN73]:** Signifies a commonly held belief / CLAIM that the author is going to take up further in the passage ...

*(passage purely factual up to this point – NO OPINION by the author yet ...)*

Line 25 In the 1980's, **however (CONTRAST WORD)**, Bakker's contention began to be questioned, as a number of scientists found growth rings in the bones of various dinosaurs that are much like those in modern reptiles. Bone growth in reptiles is periodic in nature, producing a series of concentric rings in the bone, not unlike the growth rings of a

**Comment [RN74]:** Contrast word in the beginning of the passage signals evidence with the capacity to WEAKEN the claim made just above it ... from here on the passage TILTS away from or against the idea that dinosaur bone is mammalian like ... note that in the entire passage from here on we're concerned with HOW mammalian like the dinosaur bones are ... the evidence presented from here on DISAGREES with the claim made in the immediately preceding para ... NEGATIVE TONE.

Line 30 tree. Recently, Chinsamy investigated the bones of two dinosaurs from the early Jurassic period (208-187 million years ago), and found that these bones also had growth rings; however, they were also partially fibrolamellar in nature. Chinsamy's work raises a

**Comment [RN75]:** The contrast word again tilts the passage in favour (not entirely though) of mammalian like ... SLIGHTLY POSITIVE TONE

Line 35 question central to the debate over dinosaur physiology: did dinosaurs form fibro-lamellar bone because of an innately high metabolic rate associated with warm-bloodedness or because of periods of unusually fast growth that occurred under favorable

Line 40 environmental conditions? (Although modern reptiles

**Comment [RN76]:** This again is potential evidence that if substantiated has the CAPACITY to strengthen or weaken the claim above ... the question is raised in response to the findings just above it ...

generally do not form fibro-lamellar bone, juvenile crocodiles raised under optimal environmental conditions do.) This question remains unanswered; indeed, taking all the evidence into account, one

Line 45 cannot make a definitive statement about dinosaur physiology on the basis of dinosaur bone. It may be that dinosaurs had an intermediate pattern of bone structure because their physiology was neither typically reptilian, mammalian, nor avian.

**Author:** OPINION (suggestive in nature ... hypothesis)

**Tone:** POSITIVE + NEGATIVE ... BALANCED

The author starts off with a point of debate ... and extracts from it a claim or a view that the proponents hold ... that claim is the CORE of the passage ... not the debate. Next the author is seen presenting evidence that challenges (NEGATIVE TONE) and slightly supports (POSITIVE TONE) the claim ... he ends the evaluation with his own explicit opinion.

### QUESTIONS

The author of the passage would be most likely to agree that the "caution" urged by de Ricqlès regarding claims about dinosaur physiology was

- A. unjustified by the evidence available to de Ricqlès ... lines 44 – 46 confirm that the author feels a definitive statement regarding the physiology cannot be made ... Ricqlès cautioned those who definitively believed the bones to be mammalian like ... thus ricqlès and the author are on the same page regarding the caution mentioned
- B. unnecessary, given the work done by Bakker and his followers ... the author is as weary as ricqlès is about the definitive claim regarding the physiology ... 180 degrees
- C. indicative of the prevailing scientific opinion at the time ... ricqlès was one man as per the passage who urged caution ... other than that there was a generation of scientists that believed otherwise ... 180 degrees ... opposite of indicative (representative)
- D. warranted, given certain subsequent findings of other scientists ... the author being on the same page as ricqlès regarding the claim is likely to feel the claim to be justified ...CORRECT
- E. influential in the recent work of Chinsamy ... nobody is seen to have influenced anyone in the passage

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. discuss (no opinion, neutral tone answer) the influence on other scientists of Bakker's argument concerning the warm-bloodedness of dinosaurs ... Bakker in the passage is shown to hold a definitive view regarding the physiology ... a view that is taken up for

**Comment [RN77]:** After presenting all potential weakeners and strengtheners the author sets forth his own hypothesis or his own OPINION ...

evaluation ... an X influenced Y discussion will always show you two faces of Y ... one before the introduction of X and one after

- B. **provide evidence (red flag - AVOID)** that supports the claim that dinosaurs were cold-blooded ... the cold bloodedness physiology is not the point of interest at all in the passage ... besides both supporting and challenging evidences are presented
- C. **challenge (negative tone)** the contention that dinosaur bone tissue is innately fibro-lamellar ... the dinosaur bone being innately fibro-lamellar is a finding in the passage ... none of the findings in the passage are challenged ... the implications of the findings are used to challenge one and one thing only – the claim at the end of para 1
- D. **evaluate** the **claim** that dinosaur bone tissue provides evidence for the warm-bloodedness of dinosaurs ... exactly the answer we're looking for ... the passage is all about – given the evidence how definitively can we say that the physiology was of a particular kind ... **CORRECT**
- E. **resolve (implies positive tone)** the disagreement between de Ricqlès and Bakker over the nature of dinosaur physiology ... there is no such disagreement explicitly mentioned (which should be for this option to be correct) in the passage

According to the passage, the discovery of growth rings in the bones of certain dinosaurs served to undermine which of the following claims? (as mentioned above ALL evidences presented anywhere in the passage either strengthen / or weaken just ONE claim – the one at the end of para 1 → the CORE of the passage)

- A. That modern reptiles are related to dinosaurs ... there is no such claim in the passage
- B. That bone growth in dinosaurs was periodic in nature ... again no such claim for dinosaur bones
- C. That dinosaurs were warm-blooded ... exactly ... CORE of the passage ... **CORRECT**
- D. That dinosaurs had an intermediate type of physiology ... this is a hypothesis advanced at the end of the passage not a claim
- E. That fibro-lamellar bone is the product of a rapid growth rate ... this is presented as a fact in the passage and facts can never be undermined to begin with

The author of the passage mentions bone growth patterns in juvenile crocodiles most likely in order to (purpose question)

- A. provide support for the argument that reptiles are not related to dinosaurs ... to be related means to be somehow descended from or somehow linked to that species ... being related is never a point of interest in the passage the warm bloodedness is ... they may not be related at all
- B. undermine the claim that most reptiles are slow-growing ... the slow growing reptiles are mentioned in para 1 way up (and that too as a matter of fact) and the crocs in the second para ... if the author were to undermine one using the other they wouldn't be so far spaced in the passage
- C. offer an explanation as to why juvenile crocodiles differ from most modern reptiles ... ALL juvenile crocs do not differ from the rest of the reptiles in general ... only the experimental ones do

- D. suggest the juvenile crocodiles have a type of physiology intermediate between that of mammals and that of reptiles ... **the author never makes any such suggestion regarding the physiology of the juvenile crocs ... not confirmed from the passage**
- E. suggest that the presence of fibro-lamellar bone does not resolve the debate over dinosaur physiology ... **exactly ... notice the question that the author poses just above this example ... through the question the author is trying to imply that the presence of the fibro-lamellar bones just takes the debate to a whole new level ... CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 32)

The system of patent-granting, which confers temporary monopolies for the exploitation of new technologies, was **originally** established as an incentive to the pursuit of risky new ideas. **Yet (CONTRAST WORD)** studies of the most patent-conscious business of all—the semiconductor industry—suggest that **firms do not necessarily become more innovative as they increase their patenting activity → (main idea ... the connection)**. Ziedonis and Hall, **for example**, found that investment in research and development (a reasonable proxy for innovation) **did not (connection / correlation)** substantially increase between 1982 and 1992, the industry's most feverish period of patenting. Instead, semiconductor firms simply squeezed more patents out of existing research and development expenditures. Moreover, Ziedonis and Hall found that as patenting activity at semiconductor firms increased in the 1980's, the consensus among industry employees was that the average quality of their firms' patents declined **(additional correlation data)**. Though patent quality is a difficult notion to measure, the number of times a patent is cited in the technical

**Comment [RN78]:** Says out the original intent

**Comment [RN79]:** A contrast word followed immediately by the original intent of a particular system is a strong give away of the main idea to come ...

**Comment [RN80]:** 'for example' this early in the passage puts forth a 95% chance that the MAIN IDEA (not necessarily opinion) of the passage DOES NOT lie beyond this point ... thus this taken in conjunction with the contrast word YET above confirms that the LOCATION of the main idea of the passage has to lie between the two ... YET & FOR EXAMPLE ... and it indeed does



literature is a reasonable yardstick, and citations per semiconductor patent did decline (→ **correlation data**) during the 1980's.

This decline in quality may be related to changes in the way semiconductor firms managed their patenting

Line 25 process: rather than patenting to win exclusive rights to a valuable new technology, patents were filed more for strategic purposes, to be used as bargaining chips to ward off infringement suits or as a means to block competitors' products.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author isn't unhappy with what's going on ... he simply shows us that data need not necessarily CORRELATE in every case ... that's all no further implications

The author presents a study to show that some data need not necessarily follow the general or any correlation trend (as it should, given the original intent of the system) ... the author then follows this up with examples

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with discussing

- A. a study suggesting that the semiconductor industry's approach to patenting during the period from 1982 to 1992 yielded unanticipated results ... **firstly the point of discussion in the passage is never the STUDY (keep the main idea in mind) ... to discuss a study means to go in depth into how the study was conducted and all ... the study is only mentioned never discussed ... secondly if you do decide to call the surprising result (and not results) unanticipated (for which an explicit anticipation has to be laid out first ... at least somewhere), then it wasn't the APPROACH that yielded the result but the study**
- B. a study of the semiconductor industry during the period from 1982 to 1992 that advocates certain changes in the industry's management of the patenting process ... **the study only implies and does not advocate ... so such certain changes in the management are supported by the text of the passage ... no study is discussed**
- C. the connection between patenting and innovation in the semiconductor industry during the period from 1982 to 1992 ... **perfect match ... subtly put ... the main idea is about discussing the correlation ... CORRECT**
- D. reasons that investment in research and development in the semiconductor industry did not increase significantly during the period from 1982 to 1992 ... **a discussing reasons passage would follow more of a bullet list pattern ... reason 1, reason 2 ...**

**Comment [RN81]:** Kind Note: the word 'may' here is not to be confused for saying out the author's opinion ... here 'may be' in usage is synonymous to 'can be' ... To decide whether an opinion, the sentence is required to be seen in context of the entire passage as a whole ... here's how → the passage just above presents a correlation data and uses the may sentence to present a reason for the same ... 'may' thus used here is used to indicate a certain measure of likelihood or possibility. Having established the role of the word 'may' we are at a point where the sentence can either be or not be an opinion ... the fine line is drawn by figuring out ... CONTD in the next comment

**Comment [RN82]:** CONTD from above ... whether this part, the one whose possibility is presented using the word 'may', is something that the author and only the author believes to be true or is it something he knows and derives it from verifiable facts. Look at the part that follows the colon in line 25 ... that part has no usage of words like could signalling anything hypothetical. The line is a verifiable fact presentation from which the possibility / likelihood following 'may' is derived ... this is thus just another fact and not an opinion. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLE → It may be that the race is fixed (OPINION because we have with us a non-verifiable possibility). He may have to refuel as early as in the third lap if his fuel optimizer breaks down again (NOT AN OPINION because the possibility presented is verifiable)

there is only one reason presented in the end and that too for the declining quality not for what the option says

- E. certain factors that made the period from 1982 to 1992 a time of intense patenting activity in the semiconductor industry ... there is no reasoning behind the patenting activity in the passage ... certain factors again gives off a factor 1, factor 2 kind of scent

The passage suggests which of the following about patenting in the semiconductor industry during the period from 1982 to 1992?

- A. The declining number of citations per semiconductor patent in the technical literature undermines the notion that patenting activity increased during this period ... the citations are a measure of the patent quality and have nothing to do with the patenting activity as per the passage
- B. A decline in patent quality forced firms (specific to general error – all firms implies here) to change the way they managed the patenting process ... the patent quality has not been mentioned to be associated with any changes that might have followed ... certainly not the patenting process management
- C. Increased efficiencies (not verified from the passage – has no mention) allowed firms to derive more patents from existing research and development expenditures ... we don't have any reasoning in the passage for more patents being derived from existing R & D funds
- D. Firms' emphasis on filing patents for strategic purposes may have contributed to a decline in patent quality ... the additional correlation data in lines 15 – 18 can easily infer this answer option ... CORRECT
- E. Firms' attempts to derive more patents from existing research and development expenditures may have contributed to a decline in infringement suites ... a decline in infringement suites has no mention in the passage let alone a connection with anything

The passage makes which of the following claims about patent quality in the semiconductor industry?

- A. It was higher in the early 1980's than it was a decade later ... it did decline in the period in discussion as confirmed by line 18 and line 22 ... this therefore becomes a SET THEORY COMPLEMENT answer ... CORRECT
- B. It is largely independent of the number of patents granted ... the additional correlation data in lines 15 – 18 present a pretty much opposite picture ... 180 degrees
- C. It changed between 1982 and 1992 in ways that were linked to changes in research and development expenditures ... the passage has no mention of any changes in the R & D expenditures, let alone a link.
- D. It is not adequately discussed in the industry's technical literature ... patent quality is a notion that the two researchers come up with in the process of carrying out their survey ... it has never anything to do with being discussed in any literature

- E. It was measured by inappropriate means during the period from 1982 to 1992 ... **the means of measurement are show to be the reasonably appropriate ... 180 degrees answer**

**Which of the following, if true, would most clearly serve to weaken the author's claim about what (the frequency of citations) constitutes a reasonable yardstick for measuring patent quality?**

- A. It is more difficult to have an article accepted for publication in the technical literature of the semiconductor industry than it is in the technical literature of most other industries ... **this option discusses acceptance and not frequency ... the comparison with other industries is irrelevant**
- B. Many of the highest-quality semiconductor patents are cited numerous times in the technical literature ... **increased frequency → high quality ... this strengthens the argument core rather than weakening**
- C. It is difficult for someone not familiar with the technical literature to recognize what constitutes an innovative semiconductor patent ... **the ones not familiar are never a part of the argument ... never is the argument asking them to judge how frequently the patents ought to cited**
- D. There were more citations made per semiconductor patent in the technical literature in the 1970's than in the 1980's ... **since we do know that the patent quality went down in the 80's ... this again relays in the direction of strengthening the argument**
- E. Low-quality patents tend to be discussed in the technical literature as frequently as high-quality patents ... **addresses frequency of citations ... says frequency is irrelevant to the patent's quality ... destroys the argument that there is a connection. CORRECT.**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 33)

***This passage was adapted from an article written in 1990.***

Research data indicate that there is a great deal of poverty in the United States among single-parent families headed by women. This problem **could** result from the fact that women's wages are only 60 percent of men's. **Some economists believe** that rigorous enforcement of existing equal pay laws would substantially decrease this wage inequality. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** equal

Line 5

**Comment [RN83]:** The presence of could does NOT mean here that the claim is suggestive in nature ... could here is used to indicate a certain measure of probability ... in such cases always look at the sentence in context of the passage as a whole ... you could put on a lasting impression by speaking confidently (OPINION) ... we could have seen a live shoot, had we been there an hour early (FACT)

**Comment [RN84]:** Indicates that there's more to solving the issue than just rigorous enforcement ... NOT a criticism

pay laws are ineffectual when women and men are concentrated in different occupations because such

Line 10 laws require only that women and men doing the same jobs be paid the same. Since gender concentration exists (for example, 80 percent of clerical workers are women), **other economists** argue that a comparable worth standard, which would

Line 15 mandate that women and men in any jobs that require comparable training and responsibility be paid the same, should be applied instead. **But (CONTRAST WORD) some policy**

**analysts** assert that, although comparable worth would virtually equalize male and female wages, many

Line 20 single-parent families headed by women would remain in poverty because many men earn wages that are below the poverty line. These policy analysts believe that the problem is not caused primarily by wage inequity but rather by low wages coupled with single

Line 25 parenthood, regardless of sex. As a solution, they challenge the government's assumption that a family's income should depend primarily on wages and urge the government to provide generous wage supplements (child and housing allowances) to single

Line 30 parents whose wages are low.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

There is no refutation or rebuttal at any point by the author ...

**The author initiates the discussion by presenting the problem of poverty in single parent families headed by women ... the author next presents different views on the ways to solve this problem.**

**Comment [RN85]:** Presents contrast between the views of economists and analysts ...

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that the United States government's policy towards providing wage supplements to parents whose wages are low is

- A. considered **ill advised (negative tone)** by **most (superlative - AVOID)** economists who have studied the issue ... **the policy sees no challenge at any point by anyone, certainly no the economists**
- B. based on assumptions about the appropriate sources of family income ... **the policy towards the end of the passage serves to add a source of income, which according to the analysts does seem appropriate, to the already existing source – wages. CORRECT.**
- C. under revision in response to criticism from some policy analysts ... **the passage has no such mention ... 'under revision' and 'criticism' are not confirmed from the passage**
- D. capable of eliminating wage inequality but not of raising incomes for both women and men ... **the policy towards the end of the passage is aimed at increasing the overall income by providing an additional source besides wage ... this is 180 degrees ... wage inequality is way up in the passage and is not a part of the context being discussed**
- E. applicable to single-parent families headed by women but not to single-parent families headed by men ... **the passage mentions that it is applicable to single parent families REGARDLESS of sex**

Which of the following is most clearly an example of the policy (→ regardless of sex, provide supplements so that they may not have to rely solely on wages) **advocated by the policy analysts mentioned in the highlighted portion?**

- A. A government provides training to women who wish to move out of occupations in which women are concentrated ... **the policy has nothing to do with the desires of anyone ... moreover it is for both men and women WHO are single parents**
- B. A government supports research that analyzes the connection between wage inequality and poverty among single-parent families headed by women ... **the policy in the passage has everything to do with implementation and little to do with research**
- C. A government surveys wages annually to make certain that women and men in the same jobs receive the same pay ... **the policy is more about supplements rather than addressing inequity**
- D. A government analyzes jobs in terms of the education and responsibility they require and publishes a list of jobs that should be considered equivalent for wage purposes ... **again the policy is more about supplements rather than doing away with inequity ... education as a measure of judging jobs to be equivalent wage wise is not confirmed from the passage which mentions 'training and responsibility'**
- E. A government provides large rent subsidies to single parents whose wages are less than half the average worker's wage ... **a supplement (additional source of income) to single parents regardless of sex ... perfect match ... CORRECT**

According to the passage, some economists (line 5) believe that, in the United States, there would be smaller differences between the wages of women and men who do the same jobs if

- A. equal pay laws were enforced more fully ... lines 5 – 7 confirm this option ... **CORRECT**
- B. more stringent equal pay laws were passed ... this is attributed to the economists in line 5 ... not the ones that advocate that comparable jobs see comparable wages
- C. a more rigorous comparable worth standard were developed and applied ... comparable worth standard is something associated with the economists in line 13 not the ones in line 5... 'more rigorous' implies there already exists one, which is something not confirmed
- D. more men entered the occupations in which women are concentrated ... dilution is never mentioned as a means of addressing the issue anywhere
- E. women received the same kind and amount of job training that men receive ... the similar wage law enforcement is the focal point of their concern not any training

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 34)

For many years, theoretical economists characterized humans as rational beings relentlessly bent on maximizing purely selfish reward. Results of an experimental economics study appear to contradict

Line 5 this view, **however (CONTRAST WORD) → holds main idea.** In the "Ultimatum Game," two subjects, who cannot exchange information, are

placed in separate rooms. One is randomly chosen to propose how a sum of money, known to both, should be shared between them; only one offer, which must

Line 10 be accepted or rejected without negotiation, is allowed.

If, in fact, people are selfish and rational, then the proposer should offer the smallest possible share, while the responder should accept any offer, no matter

Line 15 how small: after all, even one dollar is better than

**Comment [RN86]:** the presence of the word 'appear' in the author's claim attach a certain softness to the point the author's trying to make as opposed to saying that the results convincingly (say) contradict the view ... the softness assures us that the author maintains a neutral attitude towards the view

**Comment [RN87]:** from this point on the author gives a description of what the experiment was about and how the results appear contrary to the view



nothing. In numerous trials, however, two-thirds of the offers made were between 40 and 50 percent; only 4 percent were less than 20 percent. Among responders, more than half who were offered less than

Line 20 20 percent rejected the offer. Behavior in the game did not appreciably depend on the players' sex, age, or education. Nor did the amount of money involved play a significant role: for instance, in trials of the game that were conducted in Indonesia, the sum to be

Line 25 shared was as much as three times the subjects' average monthly income, and still responders refused offers that they deemed too small.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

There is no refutation or rebuttal at any point by the author ... no implied criticism either

**The author presents and explains how an experiment conducted suggests contrary to a long held view**

### QUESTIONS

**The primary purpose of the passage is to**

- A. **provide evidence (red flag - AVOID) in support (positive tone answer) of the view that human beings are essentially rational and selfish ... the experiment or study conducted if taken to be evidence by any chance infers the exact opposite ... 180 degrees answer**
- B. **use a particular study to challenge the argument that the economic behavior of human beings may be motivated by factors other than selfishness ... the passage consists of only the view of the economists and not an argument (which is view + supporting facts) ... moreover the challenge in the passage is to the view that the behaviour is driven only via selfishness thus insinuating that other factors may be involved ... this option clearly doesn't have its facts in order**
- C. **compare certain views about human nature held by theoretical economists with those held by experimental economists ... there is only one view in the passage ... the long held view in the first line of the passage ... experimental economists are not a part of the passage ... for this option to be valid the experimental economists have to be explicitly introduced in the passage**
- D. **describe a study that apparently (matches with the word 'appear' in line 4 – main idea line) challenges theoretical economists' understanding of human economic behaviour ...**

economists' interest in human behaviour has to be in economic behaviour unless explicitly mentioned to be something else ... perfect match ... CORRECT

- E. **suggest (implies opinion)** that researchers may have **failed (negative tone)** to take into account the impact of certain noneconomic factors in designing a study of human economic behaviour ... **the researchers are only associated with a view in the passage and not any study ... certainly not with designing any study**

The passage implies that the results of the Ultimatum Game undermine theoretical economists' characterization of human beings by

- A. demonstrating that **most (superlative - AVOID)** people are inclined to try to maximize their own advantage whenever possible ... **180 DEGREES ... the experiment infer exactly the opposite ... the option says out the economists' view in the first line**
- B. indicating that people who do not have the option of negotiating might behave more generously than do those who have the option of negotiating ... **typical mathematical answer ... infuses unnecessary comparison between something mentioned or not even mentioned at times ... all subjects of the experiment were allowed no option of negotiating**
- C. illustrating how people's economic behavior depends to some extent on how large a sum of money is involved ... **180 DEGREES ... the behaviour is shown to be independent of the SUM of money involved**
- D. showing that **most (superlative - AVOID)** people instinctively place their own economic self-interest ahead of the interest of strangers ... **the experiment suggests reasons to believe that other factors apart from self-interest might be at play in a human economical behaviour ... the word strangers is not confirmed from the passage**
- E. suggesting that people's economic behavior might in part be motivated by factors other than selfishness ... **this is exactly how the experiment comes around to challenge the view that the behaviour is purely driven via selfishness ... CORRECT**

The author refers to the sum of one dollar in order to (purpose question)

- A. **question (implies opinion by the author)** the notion that the amount of money involved **significantly (extreme)** affected players' behaviour ... **the behaviour was found to be insignificantly dependent on the amount of money**
- B. provide an example of one of the rare offers made by proposers that was less than 20 percent ... **the one dollar amount is not confirmed to be an actual offer made in the passage ... the word rare is not verified from the context of the passage**
- C. illustrate the rationality of accepting even a very small offer ... **the one dollar amount fares in the text succeeding the colon in line 15 ... it therefore has to be an exemplification of the portion mentioned before the colon ... this option matches perfectly with that part ... CORRECT**
- D. **suggest (implies opinion by the author)** a reason that responders rejected offers that were less than 20 percent ... **rather than reason their rejection the author by presenting the example of the one dollar amount presents reason not to reject such offers**

- E. **challenge (implies opinion by the author)** the conclusion that a selfish and rational proposer should offer a responder the smallest possible share ... **there is no conclusion in the passage only one VIEW in the first line ... no such conclusion is thus confirmed**

**All of the following are expressly mentioned in the passage as factors that did not significantly affect players' behavior EXCEPT the**

- A. players' level of schooling ... **confirmed from line 22 ('did not depend on education')**  
B. amount of money to be shared ... **again confirmed from line 22**  
C. ages of the players ... **mentioned in line 21**  
D. players' professions ... **professions are never cited in the entire passage ... CORRECT**  
E. genders of the players ... **mentioned in line 21**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 35)

Linda Kerber argued in the mid-1980's that after the American Revolution (1775-1783), an ideology of "republican motherhood" resulted in a surge of educational opportunities for women in the United States. Kerber maintained that the leaders of the new nation wanted women to be educated in order to raise politically virtuous sons. A virtuous citizenry was considered essential to the success of the country's republican form of government; virtue was to be instilled not only by churches and schools, but by families, where the mother's role was crucial. Thus, according to Kerber, motherhood became pivotal to the fate of the republic, providing justification for an unprecedented attention to female education. Introduction of the republican motherhood thesis dramatically changed historiography. Prior to Kerber's work, educational historians barely mentioned women

and girls; Thomas Woody's 1929 work is the notable exception. Examining newspaper advertisements for academies, Woody found that educational opportunities increased for both girls and boys around 1750. Pointing to "An Essay on Woman" (1753) as reflecting a shift in view, Woody also claimed that practical education for females had many advocates

Line 20 before the Revolution. Woody's **evidence** challenges

the notion that the Revolution changed attitudes regarding female education, **although it may have accelerated earlier trends. Historians' reliance on Kerber's "republican motherhood" thesis may have**

Line 30 **obscured the presence of these trends, making it difficult to determine to what extent the Revolution really changed women's lives.**

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents Linda's viewpoint regarding the inception of serious attention being paid towards women's education ... the author follows this up with a slightly different opinion held by Thomas Woody regarding the same

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, within the field of educational history, Thomas Woody's 1929 work was

- A. innovative because it relied on newspaper advertisements as evidence ... **when you call something innovative, you're targeting the approach behind it ... the approach behind woody's work did not set it apart as per the passage ... the subjects of his study (women and girls) did**
- B. exceptional in that it concentrated on the period before the American Revolution ... **it indeed was an exception with regards to the field at the time, however, it was the subjects of his study that set it apart rather than the period studied**
- C. unusual in that it focused on educational attitudes rather than on educational practices ... **nothing in the passage confirms that the usual norm was to focus on the educational practices**

**Comment [RN88]:** Everything that proceeds from this point on what is inferred logically from woody's evidence (FACTUAL DERIVATION) ... such logical inferences are never associated with one person alone ... such logical inferences are NOT considered opinions

**Comment [RN89]:** In the context of the passage as a whole this line serves to present a probabilistic or the measure of the degree of likelihood of a certain possibility ... it is not seen to be a proposition when considered in conjunction with the passage.

- D. controversial in its claims regarding educational opportunities for boys ... **Woody's work having sparked off a controversy is probably the least inferable option**
- E. atypical in that it examined the education of girls ... **the answer choice mentions the subjects of his work / study ... perfectly inferred from lines 16 – 18 ... CORRECT**

According to the passage, Kerber argued that political leaders thought that the form of government adopted by the United States after the American Revolution depended on which of the following for its success?

- A. Women assuming the **sole (meaning them and them alone ... extreme - AVOID)** responsibility for instilling political virtue in children ... **lines 9 – 11 confirm that mothers (not women in general) were an additional source of instilling virtue**
- B. Girls becoming the primary focus of a reformed educational system that emphasized political virtue ... **the educational system was never reformed as per the passage ... the attention to female education saw an unprecedented rise as per the passage ... however, girls becoming the primary focus and surpassing the boys regarding the focus give to them is not confirmed from the passage**
- C. The family serving as one of the primary means by which children were imbued with political virtue ... **'one of the' confirms the family to serve as an additional source to the ones already existing ... pretty decent match of what lines 9 – 11 say ... CORRECT**
- D. The family assuming many of the functions previously performed by schools and churches ... **'many of the functions' is something not confirmed from the passage ... the passage mentions the family to start acting as an additional source NOT taking over the roles of schools and churches**
- E. Men and women assuming equal responsibility for the management of schools, churches, and the family ... **neither the men nor the women are seen assuming any such responsibility anywhere in the passage**

The passage suggests that, with regard to the history of women's education in the United States, Kerber's work differs from Woody's primarily concerning which of the following?

- A. The extent to which women were interested in pursuing educational opportunities in the eighteenth century ... **the only interest the passage concerns itself with is in getting the women educated at the government's end ... the interest of the women themselves is not a part of the passage**
- B. The extent of the support for educational opportunities for girls prior to the American Revolution ... **lines 25 – 27 confirm that while Woody believed such support had begun as early as the 1750s, Linda was of the opinion that the support only came into being post the revolution implying Linda to be of the opinion that such support had little existence prior to the revolution ... perfectly inferable ... CORRECT**
- C. The extent of public resistance to educational opportunities for women after the American Revolution ... **public or any resistance for that matter is never an issue raised in the passage**
- D. Whether attitudes toward women's educational opportunities changed during the eighteenth century ... **Had the two differed from each other regarding this exact point, Linda would have said NOT changed in response to Woody having said changed or**

vice versa ... however note that the passage shows both of them to agree on the point that attitudes did change during the eighteenth century (the 1700s) ... the only difference being Linda saying only after the American revolution (i.e. after 1783) and Woody saying from 1750 something

- E. Whether women needed to be educated in order to contribute to the success of a republican form of government ... the timeline of when the answer to the this option was realized as a YES answer is what the two differed on ... not whether the answer to the option is YES or NO

According to the passage, Kerber maintained that which of the following led to an increase in educational opportunities for women in the United States after the American Revolution?

- A. An unprecedented demand by women For greater educational opportunities in the decades following the Revolution ... the only thing unprecedented in the passage is the attention to female education which according to the passage is a part of the effect not cause ... women are never seen to put forward any demand in the passage
- B. A new political ideology calling for equality of opportunity between women and men in all aspects (specific to general) of life ... the ideology isn't inclined towards inequality as much as it is towards ensuring a virtuous republican representation at the government level for which female education was seen as a must
- C. A belief that the American educational system could be reformed only if women participated more fully in that system ... the educational system is neither mentioned nor is the point of discussion here in the passage ... the success of the republican form of government is ... for 'more' to be justified in this option there has to be a mention of some measure of participation in the passage ... there is none
- D. A belief that women needed to be educated if they were to contribute to the success of the nation's new form of government ... lines 5 – 9 are perfectly summarized by this option ... there is no such word in the option that may not be verified from the content of the passage ... CORRECT
- E. A recognition that women needed to be educated if they were to take an active role in the nation's schools and churches ... their education was seen necessary for raising politically virtuous sons ... no such role (active or passive) is confirmed from the passage

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 36)

Earth's surface consists of rigid plates that are constantly shifting and jostling one another. Plate movements are the surface expressions of motions in



the mantle—the thick shell of rock that lies between

Line 5 Earth's crust and its metallic core. Although the hot rock of the mantle is a solid, under the tremendous pressure of the crust and overlying rock of the mantle, it flows like a viscous liquid. The mantle's motions, analogous to those in a pot of boiling water, cool the

Line 10 mantle by carrying hot material to the surface and returning cooler material to the depths. When the edge of one plate bends under another and its cooler material is consumed in the mantle, volcanic activity occurs as molten lava rises from the downgoing plate

Line 15 and erupts through the overlying one. Most volcanoes occur at plate boundaries. However, certain "misplaced" volcanoes far from plate edges result from a second, independent mechanism that cools the deep interior of Earth. Because of its proximity to Earth's

Line 20 core, the rock at the base of the mantle is much hotter than rock in the upper mantle. The hotter the mantle rock is, the less it resists flowing. Reservoirs of this hot rock collect in the base of the mantle. When a reservoir is sufficiently large, a sphere of this hot rock

Line 25 forces its way up through the upper mantle to Earth's surface, creating a broad bulge in the topography. The "mantle plume" thus formed, once established, continues to channel hot material from the mantle base until the reservoir is emptied. The surface mark

Line 30 of an established plume is a hot spot—an isolated region of volcanoes and uplifted terrain located far from the edge of a surface plate. Because the source

**Comment [RN90]:** Mechanism # 1 for Volcano formation begins here

**Comment [RN91]:** Mechanism # 2 for Volcano formation begins here

of a hot spot remains fixed while a surface plate moves over it, over a **long period of time** an active plume creates a chain of volcanoes or volcanic islands, a track marking the position of the plume relative to the moving plate. The natural history of the Hawaiian island chain clearly shows the movement of the Pacific plate over a fixed plume.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author takes up the entire space of the passage to describe how two kinds of volcanic activity result – i.e. the mechanism behind their formation

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with discussing

- A. the composition of Earth's mantle ... **'discussing the composition' means discussing the different 'kinds of rocks' that make up the mantle ... the passage never mentions a single kind that might constitute the mantle layer**
- B. how the Hawaiian Islands were created ... **the Hawaiian islands are mentioned merely as evidence for the existence of a second kind of volcanoes for which a mechanism is given ... this option thus has secondary function in the passage not primary**
- C. what causes Earth's surface plates to move ... **the passage maybe spends one line to say that these are surface expressions of the mantle movements (lines 2 – 4) ... this obviously does not have primary function in the passage ... it forms part of a build-up that introduces the topic of volcano formation**
- D. two different mechanisms by which volcanoes are formed ... **this is exactly what most of the passage is dedicated to doing ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- E. why most volcanoes occur at plate boundaries ... **the passage nowhere addresses the 'why' aspect of volcano formation only the 'how' aspect ... the word 'why' is thus not justified**

It can be inferred from the passage that a chain of volcanoes created by a mantle plume would most likely be characterized by

- A. a curved outline ... **the passage has no mention of any curved outline formation anywhere in the passage**
- B. constituent volcanoes that differ from each other in age ... **lines 32 – 37 give reason to believe that the long period of time over which the chain is formed has constituent volcanoes that are subsequently younger than their immediate predecessors in the chain ... inferable and thus CORRECT**

- C. occurrence near a plate boundary where one plate bends under another ... **this is characteristic of the volcanoes formed by the first mechanism – the ones that occur at plate boundaries ... 180 degrees answer**
- D. appearance near many other volcanic chains ... **the ‘many other chains’ are never mentioned in the passage**
- E. rocks with a wide range of chemical composition ... **the chemical composition of any rock whatsoever is never discussed in the passage**

The author’s reference to the Hawaiian Islands serves primarily to

- A. provide an example of a type of volcanic activity that does not occur elsewhere ... **the reference to the Hawaiian Islands is to exemplify volcanoes formed by the second mechanism ... the Islands are not mentioned to be the only examples of volcanoes formed by the second mechanism**
- B. identify the evidence initially used to establish that the Pacific plate moves ... **whether the pacific plate moves is never an issue in the passage**
- C. **call into question (negative tone)** a theory about the source of the volcanoes that created the Hawaiian Islands ... **the source is simply mentioned in the passage and does not have a theory attached to it**
- D. illustrate the distance from plate edges at which volcanoes typically appear ... **no such illustration is ever made ... there is never any mention of a particular distance from the boundary at which such volcanoes occur**
- E. provide an example of how mantle plumes manifest themselves on Earth’s surface ... **this is exactly the role the Hawaiian Islands play towards the end of the passage ... they exemplify the volcanoes formed via the second mechanism ... CORRECT**

According to the passage, a hot spot on Earth’s surface is an indication of which of the following?

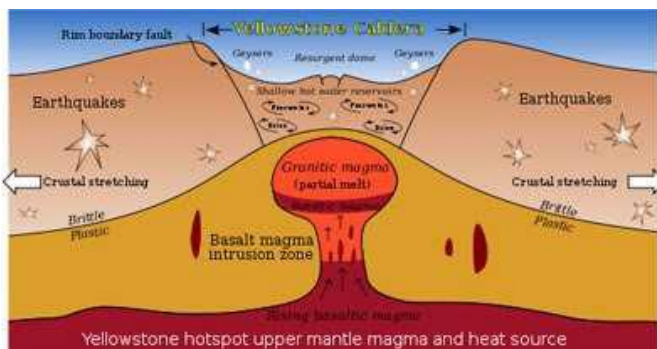
- A. An untapped reservoir of hot rock in the base of the mantle ... **the word untapped is not justified from the passage ... a hot spot on the earth’s surface implies that the reservoir has already been tapped**
- B. Volcanic activity at the edge of a plate ... **the hot spot / plume is mentioned as part of the mechanism that explains the formation of volcanoes far from the edge not at it**
- C. Solid mantle rock under tremendous pressure ... **mantle rock under pressure is a homogeneous property of the mantle layer throughout not just at hot spots ... this is no way a possible indicator**
- D. The occurrence of a phenomenon unique to the Pacific plate ... **the pacific plate is mentioned as one example of the mechanism involving a hot spot formation, however, the passage does not say anything as to whether this is the only example**
- E. A plume of hot mantle rock originating near Earth’s core ... **lines 24 – 29 elaborate on exactly what this answer option says ... the broad bulge in the topography mentioned in line 26 is the hot spot formed on the earth’s surface and the plume of hot rock near the earth’s core is the ‘mantle plume’ in line 27 that channels the hot material from the base ... CORRECT**

A few miscellaneous notes to improve your understanding of the passage

Lines 19 – 32

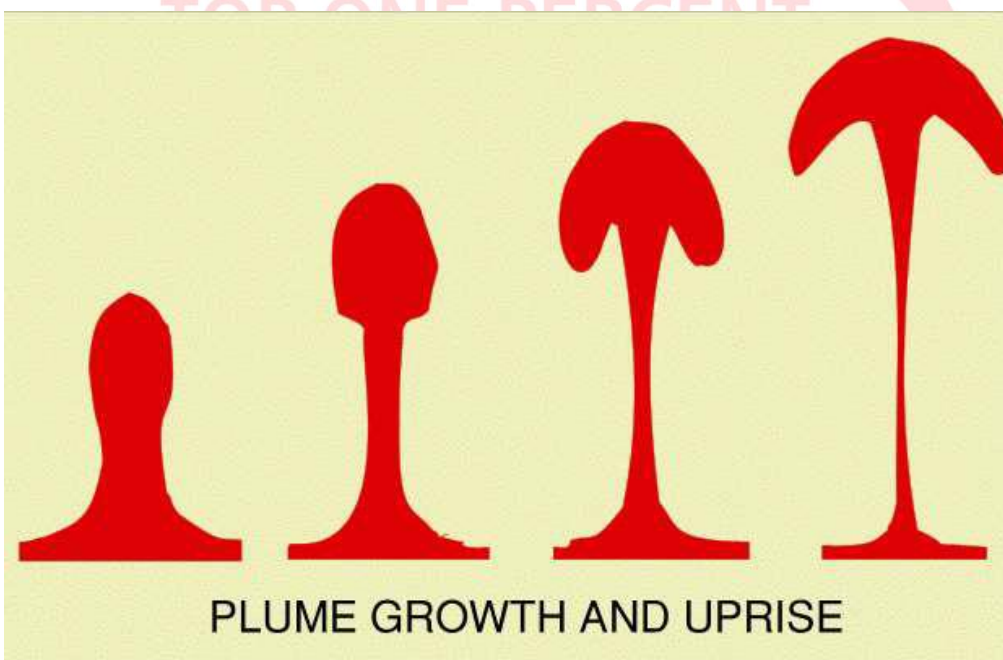
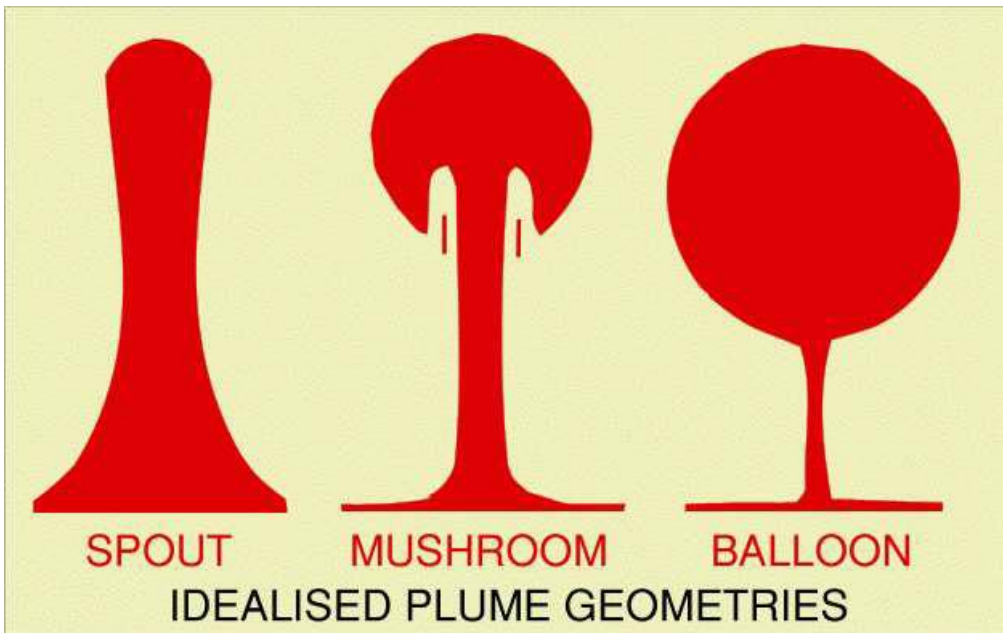
*“Because of its proximity to Earth’s core, the rock at the base of the mantle is much hotter than rock in the upper mantle. The hotter the mantle rock is, the less it resists flowing. Reservoirs of this hot rock collect in the base of the mantle. When a reservoir is sufficiently large, a sphere of this hot rock forces its way up through the upper mantle to Earth’s surface, creating a broad bulge in the topography. The “mantle plume” thus formed, once established, continues to channel hot material from the mantle base until the reservoir is emptied. The surface mark of an established plume is a hot spot—an isolated region of volcanoes and uplifted terrain located far from the edge of a surface plate.”*

may be better understood with the help of a few pictures pasted below



So the hot spot or the MANTLE PLUME is the big bulge or the upward rising pool / balloon of the HOT ROCK. The HOT ROCK however sits just below the surface of the earth not at the base (what option A of the last question says) as depicted in the last pic. Option E of the last question says exactly what is happening in the passage portion that I pasted as well as in the pics above.

INTENTIONALLY BLANK



*So the hot spot or the MANTLE PLUME is the big bulge or the upward rising pool / balloon of the HOT ROCK. The HOT ROCK however sits just below the surface of the earth not at the base (what option A of the last question says) as depicted in the last pic. Option E of the last question says exactly what is happening in the passage portion that I pasted as well as in the pics above.*

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 37)

The sloth bear, an insect-eating animal native to Nepal, exhibits only one behavior that is truly distinct from that of other bear species: the females carry their cubs (at least part-time) until the cubs are about nine months old, even though the cubs can walk on their own at six months. Cub-carrying also occurs among some other myrmecophagous (ant-eating) mammals; therefore, **one explanation** is that cub-carrying is

necessitated by myrmecophagy, since myrmecophagy entails a low metabolic rate and high energy expenditure in walking between food patches.

However, although polar bears' locomotion is similarly inefficient, polar bear cubs walk along with their mother. **Furthermore, the daily movements of sloth bears and American black bears—which are similar in size to sloth bears and have similar-sized home ranges—reveal similar travel rates and distances, suggesting that if black bear cubs are able to keep up with their mother, so too should sloth bear cubs.**

An alternative explanation is defense from predation.

Black bear cubs use trees for defense, whereas brown bears and polar bears, which regularly inhabit treeless environments, rely on aggression to protect their cubs.

Like brown bears and polar bears (and unlike other

myrmecophagous mammals, which are noted for their passivity), sloth bears are easily provoked to aggression. Sloth bears also have relatively large

**Comment [RN92]:** The author takes up the first explanation and tests its possibility of fitting in

**Comment [RN93]:** The author takes up the second explanation and tests its possibility of fitting in ... the author is nowhere seen to believe that a particular explanation fits best



canine teeth, which appear to be more functional for fighting than for foraging. Like brown bears and polar

Line 30 bears, sloth bears may have evolved in an environment with few trees. They are especially attracted to food-rich grasslands; although few grasslands persist today on the Indian subcontinent, this type of habitat was once widespread there.

Line 35 Grasslands support high densities of tigers, which fight and sometimes kill sloth bears; sloth bears also coexist with and have been killed by tree-climbing leopards, and are often confronted and chased by rhinoceroses and elephants, which can topple trees. Collectively

Line 40 these factors probably selected against tree-climbing as a defensive strategy for sloth bear cubs. Because sloth bears are smaller than brown and polar bears and are under greater threat from dangerous animals, they may have adopted the extra precaution of

Line 45 carrying their cubs. Although cub-carrying may also be adoptive for myrmecophagous foraging, the behavior of sloth bear cubs, which climb on their mother's back at the first sign of danger, suggests that predation was a key stimulus.

**Author: NO OPINION** (exploratory passage – the author does not seem to have definitive knowledge of the reason behind a particular behaviour). The author does not propose the explanations himself rather picks them up and delves deeper. He is not sure which one fits.

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces a behaviour of sloth bears that is different from the behaviour of most other types of bears. The author then takes up two POSSIBLE explanations and delves into how the explanations may come around to explaining the behaviour. The author at no point seems certain of an explanation that might fit.

## QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. trace the development of a particular behavioral characteristic of the sloth bear ... **a typical chronology answer ... the author does not present the stages through which the behaviour went before developing into what it is**
- B. explore possible explanations for a particular behavioral characteristic of the sloth bear ... **this is exactly what the author is doing in the passage ... taking up possible explanations and examining them ... exact match ... CORRECT**
- C. compare the defensive strategies of sloth bear cubs to the defensive strategies of cubs of other bear species ... **the passage is not about defensive strategies of either of the cubs ... least of all a comparison**
- D. describe how certain behavioral characteristics of the sloth bear differ from those of other myrmecophagous mammals ... **there is just one behavioural characteristic talked of in the passage and it is distinct with regard to most other types of bears and not other mammals ... moreover, the characteristic is mentioned in the beginning of the passage rather than being described in the passage**
- E. provide an alternative to a generally accepted explanation of a particular behavioral characteristic of myrmecophagous mammals ... **the behavioural characteristic is of the sloth bears and not the mammals ... there is neither a 'generally accepted' explanation in the passage nor an alternative**

The author mentions rhinoceroses and elephants (in the highlighted text) primarily in order to (purpose question)

- A. explain why sloth bears are not successful foragers in grassland habitats ... **nowhere in the passage is the author evaluating the bears' foraging skills**
- B. identify the predators that have had the **most (superlative – AVOID)** influence on the behavior of sloth bears ... **the rhinoceroses and elephants are mentioned as one the members that are a threat to the sloth bears ... they're mentioned to influence the bears**
- C. suggest a possible reason that sloth bear cubs do not use tree-climbing as a defense ... **perfect match ... this is exactly why the author mentions these two ... lines 39 – 40 suggest that the because of the ability of the two animals to topple trees cubs decide against tree-climbing as a defense mechanism ... CORRECT**
- D. provide examples of predators that were once widespread across the Indian subcontinent ... **the only things mentioned to once be widespread across the Indian subcontinent were the grasslands and not any predators**
- E. defend the assertion that sloth bears are under greater threat from dangerous animals than are other bear species ... **there is no such assertion made in the passage ... the author is trying to fit explanations rather than identify threatening animals**

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument in the highlighted text ("Furthermore ... sloth bear cubs")?

- A. Cub-carrying behavior has been observed in many non-mymecophagous mammals ... **this has absolutely no bearing on the argument that similar features → similar behaviour among cubs**
- B. Many of the largest myrmecophagous mammals do not typically exhibit cub-carrying behaviour ... **the argument conclusion involves similar sized creatures**
- C. Some sloth bears have home ranges that are smaller in size than the average home ranges of black bears ... **smaller home ranges if anything would imply less expenditure of energy meaning that cub carrying cannot be explained based on this explanation ... this therefore strengthens rather than weakens**
- D. The locomotion of black bears is **significantly** more efficient than the locomotion of sloth bears ... **significant efficiency implies that even though the rest of the features of the black bears may be similar, it is easy for the black bear cubs to travel between patches and also gives all the more reason for a fitting explanation of the cub carrying behaviour ... therefore weakens the author's conclusion that cub carrying behaviour cannot be explained based on metabolism ... CORRECT**
- E. The habitat of black bears consists of terrain that is significantly more varied than that of the habitat of sloth bears ... **variety in the terrain is of little relevance as far as the travel rates and distances traversed by both the bears are the same**

Which of the following is mentioned in the passage as a way in which brown bears and sloth bears are similar?

- A. They tend to become aggressive when provoked ... **lines 24 – 27 confirm this answer option word by word ... CORRECT**
- B. They live almost exclusively in treeless environments ... **lines 30 – 31 suggest that the sloth bears and brown bears may have EVOLVED in an environment with few trees ... thus 'live almost exclusively in treeless environments' is not confirmed from the passage**
- C. They are preyed upon by animals that can climb or topple trees ... **this is something that is said exclusively for the sloth bears**
- D. They are inefficient in their locomotion ... **the locomotion of brown bears is not discussed in the passage**
- E. They have relatively large canine teeth ... **this again is an attribute exclusive to the sloth bears**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 38)

Diamonds are almost impossible to detect directly

because they are so rare: very rich kimberlite pipes, the routes through which diamonds rise, may contain only three carats of diamonds per ton of kimberlite.

Line 5 Kimberlite begins as magma in Earth's mantle (the layer between the crust and the core). As the magma smashes through layers of rock, it rips out debris, creating a mix of liquid and solid material. Some of the solid material it brings up may come from a so-called

Line 10 diamond-stability field, where conditions of pressure and temperature are conducive to the formation of diamonds. If diamonds are to survive, **though** (CONTRAST WORD), they must shoot toward Earth's surface quickly. Otherwise, they revert to graphite or burn. Explorers seeking

Line 15 diamonds look for specks of "indicator minerals" peculiar to the mantle but carried up in greater quantities than diamonds and eroded out of kimberlite pipes into the surrounding land. The standard ones are garnets, chromites, and ilmenites. One can spend

Line 20 years searching for indicators and tracing them back to the pipes that are their source; **however** (CONTRAST WORD), 90 percent of kimberlite pipes found this way are barren of diamonds, and the rest are usually too sparse to mine.

In the 1970's the process of locating profitable pipes was refined by focusing on the subtle differences between the chemical signatures of indicator minerals found in diamond-rich pipes as opposed to those found in barren pipes. For example, G10 garnets, a type of garnet typically found in diamond-rich pipes,

Line 30 are lower in calcium and higher in chrome than

**Comment [RN94]:** Functions to display here the degree of sensitivity of factors involved in its formation ... the complexity of the scenario is slightly upped here ...

**Comment [RN95]:** What this contrast introduces forms the backbone of the discussion or the REASON behind writing the passage ... the author wishes to bring to our attention the once extremely arduous challenge ... the author will then go on to present the chief constituent of the passage ... the new revolutionary process

garnets from barren pipes. Geochemists John Gurney showed that garnets with this composition were formed only in the diamond-stability field; more commonly found versions came from elsewhere in the

Line 35 mantle. Gurney also found that though ilmenites did not form in the diamond-stability field, there was a link useful for prospectors: when the iron in ilmenite was highly oxidized, its source pipe rarely contained any diamonds. He reasoned that iron took on more or less

Line 40 oxygen in response to conditions in the kimberlitic magma itself—mainly in response to heat and the available oxygen. When iron became highly oxidized, so did diamonds; that is, they vaporized into carbon dioxide.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author first enlightens us with how difficult it is for one to pursue profitable mining of diamonds. The author then discusses a more recent method of detecting profitable kimberlite pipes with regard to diamond extraction.

The passage is purely factual in nature

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. discuss an objection to Gurney's theories about the uses of indicator minerals ... **there is never any objection presented anywhere in the passage ... theories (plural) are not confirmed from the content of the passage**
- B. explore the formation of diamonds and the reasons for their scarcity ... **we say explore when the author little idea about what he's talking about ... the author has a pretty fair idea of what he's taken up for discussion here ... the author is never seen giving out any reason (forget reasons) explicitly behind the observed scarcity**
- C. analyze the importance of kimberlite pipes in the formation of diamonds ... **a clear understanding of the passage will tell you that kimberlite pipes have absolutely no association with the FORMATION of diamonds ... the passage does not even discuss the formation of diamonds ... kimberlite pipes are a source of finding diamond on the surface or more of a conduit to bring up the already formed diamond from the**

- diamond stability field ... look at it this way – diamond can easily form without kimberlite presence ... the only issue faced would be its coming up on the surface**
- D. **define (red flag for a primary purpose question)** the characteristics of indicator minerals under differing conditions ... **the indicator minerals are mentioned but their characteristics are never put forth in the passage ... differing conditions is not verified from the context of the passage**
- E. explain a method of determining whether kimberlite pipes are likely to contain diamonds ... **the entire idea of writing out the passage revolves around bringing to light that one recent method that has made things a lot easier on part of those in search of diamond ... perfect match ... CORRECT**

Each of the following is mentioned in the passage as a difference between G10 garnet and other versions of garnet EXCEPT

- A. level of oxidation ... **the level of oxidation mentioned in the passage is of the iron and in the ilmenite, the level of oxidation in itself is another tracker and is not associated in any manner with garnets mentioned in the passage ... CORRECT**
- B. commonness of occurrence ... **lines 28 – 31 confirm that whereas G10 mainly occurs in diamond rich kimberlite ... the other versions are found in the barren pipes**
- C. chemical signature ... **lines 26 through to 31 confirm this option**
- D. place of formation ... **confirmed via line 33 ... 'only in diamond rich fields'**
- E. appearance in conjunction with diamonds ... **this is pretty much another inference of option B ... lines 28 – 31 ... G10 with diamond & others without**

The passage suggests that the presence of G10 garnet in a kimberlite pipe indicates that

- A. the pipe in which the garnet is found has a 90% chance of containing diamonds ... **the 90% figure that comes up in the passage is associated with the probability of NOT finding diamonds in kimberlite pipes when not using the chemical signatures of indicator materials to track down diamond rich kimberlite pipes**
- B. the levels of calcium and chrome in the pipe are conducive to diamond formation ... **the levels are characteristic of pipes with diamond rich kimberlite ... however, nothing in the passage confirms that the levels factor into the formation of diamond ... the levels as such play no role in diamond formation**
- C. the pipe passed through a diamond-stability field and thus may contain diamonds ... **as per the passage the presence of G10 indicate that the pipe may contain diamond and since the only source of diamond mentioned in the passage is the diamond rich field it may inferred that the diamond containing pipe hence passed through a diamond – stability field ... CORRECT**
- D. any diamonds the pipe contains would not have come from the diamond-stability field ... **no other source (other than the diamond-stability field) of diamonds found in the kimberlite pipes**
- E. the pipe's temperature was so high that it oxidized any diamonds the pipe might have contained ... **this option and G10 garnet presence in the pipes are mentioned in two separate locations of the passage and bear no relation with each other**



According to the passage, Gurney refined the use of ilmenites in prospecting for diamonds in which of the following ways?

- A. He found that ilmenites are brought up from the mantle by kimberlite pipes and erode out into the surrounding land in greater quantities than diamonds ... **the only thing mentioned to be brought up by kimberlite pipes is the diamond ... unless this is explicitly mentioned for ilmenite as well, it can't be confirmed from the content of the passage ... the eroding out of the ilmenites into surrounding land is not mentioned in the passage**
- B. He found that since ilmenites do not form in the diamond-stability field, their presence indicates the absence of diamonds ... **he never infers anything of such sort ... it is the level of oxidation of the iron present in them that helps comment on the presence or absence of diamonds, not the presence of ilmenites themselves**
- C. He showed that highly oxidized iron content in ilmenites indicates a low survival rate for diamonds ... **this is an exact summary of what is mentioned post line 35 in the passage ... CORRECT**
- D. He found that when the iron in ilmenites is highly oxidized, conditions in the magma were probably conducive to the formation of diamonds ... **highly oxidized iron as per the passage indicates a fairly high chance that any diamond present got vaporized ... calling this conducive is taking a 180 degree turn**
- E. He showed that ilmenites take on more or less oxygen in the kimberlite pipe depending on the concentration of diamonds ... **this option unnecessarily tries to fuse in a cause and effect relationship where none exists ... there is a correlation between two factors (level of oxidation of iron in the ilmenite & presence of diamonds) which are both influenced by the amount of exposure to oxygen ... this however does not translate into the amount of oxygen exposure being controlled the latter i.e. the concentration of diamonds as per the option**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 39)

(The following is excerpted from material written in 1992.)

Many researchers regard Thailand's recent economic growth, as reflected by its gross domestic product (GDP) growth rates, as an example of the success of a modern technological development strategy based on the market economics of industrialized countries. **Yet** (CONTRAST WORD)

Line 5

**Comment [RN96]:** Picks up a common viewpoint among researchers ... researchers are by the way people with the highest degree of expertise in the area they're researching on ...

**Comment [RN97]:** Note how closely it follows up the opinion presented ... signals either contrasting evidence or a judgement ...

by focusing **solely (indicates narrowness)** on aggregate economic growth data as the measure of Thailand's development, these researchers have **overlooked (indicates narrowness)** the economic impact of rural development projects that improve people's daily lives at the village level **(author's opinion)** —such as the cooperative raising of water buffalo, improved sanitation, and the development of food crops both for consumption and for sale at local markets; such projects are not adequately reflected in the country's GDP. These researchers, influenced by Robert Heilbroner's now outdated development theory, tend to view nontechnological development as an obstacle to progress. Heilbroner's theory has become doctrine in some economics textbooks: for example, Monte Palmer disparages nontechnological rural development projects as inhibiting constructive change. **Yet (CONTRAST WORD)** as Ann Kelleher's two recent case studies of the Thai villages Non Muang and Dong Keng illustrate, the nontechnological-versus-technological dichotomy can lead researchers not only to overlook real advances achieved by rural development projects but also mistakenly to conclude that because such advances are initiated by rural leaders and are based on traditional values and practices, they retard "real" economic development.

**Comment [RN98]:** This is a judgemental call made by the author ... he criticizes the researchers completely leaving out a contributor to economic growth ... clear criticism

**Comment [RN99]:** Note how the author attacks the basis / foundation of the researchers ...

**Comment [RN100]:** Introduces evidence to confirm or prove why the theory truly is outdated ...

**Author: OPINION** (this is a criticism passage)

**The passage is criticism only ... no suggestion!**

**Tone: NEGATIVE**

**The author takes up a common inference that many researchers hold ... he then criticizes the researchers to have discredited the contribution of rural development projects to the**

growth of the economy. He presents their basis (their influence) for such inference and shows using a recent case study how ill-conceived their argument regarding the contributor of economic growth can be.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **explain (no opinion, neutral tone answer)** the true reasons for the increase in Thailand's GDP ... **the author takes up an overlooked contributor rather than true reasons**
- B. argue for the adoption of certain rural development projects ... **completely off track ... the author concerns himself with already adopted rural projects that the researchers oversaw while finding key contributors to economic growth**
- C. question the value of technological development in Thailand ... **the idea questioned in the passage is that the economic growth as seen from the GDP data represents modern technological development ALONE ... never is the value of the development as issue in the passage ... note how this option has no mention of economic growth as well**
- D. criticize certain assumptions about economic development in Thailand ... **this is exactly what the author does ... he attacks the basis of the belief that the economists hold ... CORRECT**
- E. **compare (no opinion, neutral tone answer)** traditional and modern development strategies in Thailand ... **there are no strategies (in the sense what they actually entailed) mentioned in the passage ... forget a comparison**

It can be inferred from the passage that the term "real" in the last sentence of the passage most likely refers to economic development that is

- A. based on a technological development strategy ... **the entire passage presents the researchers with little regard for non-technological development thus the dichotomy presented in line 24 of the passage is likely to lead the researchers to believe that the non-technological strategy is likely to pull back the technological one ... CORRECT**
- B. not necessarily favored by most researchers ... **the one the researchers feel is being retarded is the one they have full regard for i.e. technological development based strategy which is favoured by most researchers ... 180 degrees**
- C. initiated by rural leader ... **the one that is initiated by these rulers is the one viewed with little regard and hence the one that causes the retardation**
- D. a reflection of traditional values and practices ... **traditional values and practices is introduced in the passage as a basis (a basis that the researchers believe) behind the non-technological advances by rural leaders ... this is again something that the researchers hold little regard for and hence believe causes the retardation**
- E. difficult to measure statistically ... **capacity to measure is not part of the context in discussion here**

The author of the passage cites the work of Palmer in order to give an example of

- A. a recent case study of rural development projects in Thai villages ... **the recent case study is linked with Ann Kelleher and not Palmer**
- B. current research that has attempted to reassess Thailand's economic development ... **a reassessment attempt by any entity is not part of the passage**
- C. an economics textbook that views nontechnological development as an obstacle to progress ... **palmer forms a part of the portion of the sentence that lies post the colon (lines 19 – 21) ... it thus exemplifies whatever is said prior to the colon in the sentence ... exact match ... CORRECT**
- D. the prevalence of the view that regards nontechnological development as beneficial but inefficient ... **the prevailing view has no regard for nontechnological development**
- E. a portrayal of nontechnological development projects as promoting constructive change ... **the passage attaches a negative tone to Palmer with regards to nontechnological development ... 180 degrees**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 40)

Historians who study European women of the Renaissance try to measure "independence," "options," and other indicators of the degree to which the expression of women's individuality was either permitted or suppressed. Influenced by Western individualism, these historians define a peculiar form of personhood: an innately bounded unit, autonomous and standing apart from both nature and society. An anthropologist, **however** (CONTRAST WORD), would contend that a person

can be conceived in ways other than as an "individual." In many societies a person's identity is not intrinsically unique and self-contained but instead is defined within a complex web of social relationships. In her study of the fifteenth-century Florentine widow

Alessandra Strozzi, a historian who specializes in

**Comment [RN101]:** Presents contrast between how historians and anthropologists view 'measure of individuality'

European women of the Renaissance attributes individual intention and authorship of actions to her subject. This historian assumes that Alessandra had goals and interests different from those of her sons,

Line 20 **yet (CONTRAST WORD)** much of the historian's own research reveals that

Alessandra acted primarily as a champion of her sons' interests, taking their goals as her own. **Thus**

Alessandra conforms more closely to the anthropologist's notion that personal motivation is

Line 25 embedded in a social context. Indeed, one could argue

that Alessandra did not distinguish her personhood from that of her sons. In Renaissance Europe the boundaries of the conceptual self were not always firm and closed and did not necessarily coincide with the

Line 30 boundaries of the bodily self.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents the perspectives of the historians and the anthropologists regarding how they view individuality of a person in society ... he then takes up the second passage to apply the two to a particular study to objectively show that while the study claims to employ the historian's perspective, most of its work suggests it is actually more bent towards that of the anthropologists

**Comment [RN102]:** Presents data of her own research at odds with her own perspective

**Comment [RN103]:** This is the conclusion that the author arrives at regarding a study he takes up for analysis in the second paragraph ... a logical derivation or a logical arrival at a conclusion is more OBJECTIVE in nature and is not something that the author feels rather what the author sees as a logical outcome ... this is not an OPINION ... in the context of the passage the author only takes the two model frameworks of measuring individuality and applies them to a historian's work ... he shows no prejudice here ...

### QUESTIONS

In the first paragraph, the author of the passage mentions a contention that would be made by an anthropologist most likely in order to (purpose question – author's purpose)

- A. present a theory that will be **undermined (negative tone answer)** in the discussion of a historian's study later in the passage ... **the view that he does present via the contention is the one that shown to have more support for via the evidence of the of the study in the second passage ... there are no theories presented in the passage**
- B. offer a perspective on the concept of **personhood (or individuality)** that can usefully be applied to the study of women in Renaissance Europe ... **'usefully be applied' is confirmed from the second paragraph where Alessandra's study is shown to be more inclined to the perspective introduced through the contention ... Alessandra's study is then said to be representative of the European women of the renaissance ... CORRECT**

- C. **undermine (implies opinion and negative tone)** the view that the individuality of European women of the Renaissance was largely suppressed ... **there is no such definitive view that says that the women were suppressed**
- D. **argue (implies opinion)** that anthropologists have applied the Western concept of individualism in their research ... **a complete mix up of facts ... western individualism is given to be associated with historians ... never the anthropologists**
- E. lay the groundwork for the conclusion that Alessandra's is a unique case among European women of the Renaissance whose lives have been studied by historians ... **no such groundwork is ever laid anywhere ... rather than being unique Alessandra's study is mentioned to be representative of the European women of the Renaissance**

According to the passage, much of the research on Alessandra Strozzi done by the historian mentioned in the second paragraph supports which of the following conclusions?

- A. Alessandra used her position as her sons' **sole (extreme as per the passage - AVOID)** guardian to further interests different from those of her sons ... **use of position to further interests is not a part of the passage ... much of the research does imply that she championed her sons' interests rather than furthering interests different from those of her sons'**
- B. Alessandra unwillingly sacrificed her own interests in favor of those of her sons ... **there is no 'unwilling (against her will) sacrifice' that is talked of in the passage**
- C. Alessandra's actions indicate that her motivations and intentions were those of an independent individual ... **this option is way off track and confines to neither of the two perspectives mentioned ... the passage not about whom the motivations and intentions belong to (whether an individual or group) but about whether the society considerably influences an individual's motivations and intentions**
- D. Alessandra's social context encouraged her to take independent action ... **be careful with the words in the options ... all of them ... the passage again isn't about individual / group action**
- E. Alessandra regarded her sons' goals and interests as her own ... **this is exactly what is mentioned in the lines 20 – 22 of the passage ... CORRECT**

The passage suggests that the historian mentioned in the second paragraph would be most likely to agree with which of the following assertions regarding Alessandra Strozzi?

- A. Alessandra was able to act **more (typical mathematical answer - AVOID)** independently than **most (superlative - AVOID)** women of her time because she was a widow ... **the option tries to infuse in comparison between two entities that are only mentioned in the passage ... such comparison does not exist ... her being a widow has no implications in the passage**
- B. Alessandra was aware that her personal motivation was embedded in a social context ... **awareness is not the topic that the two groups contend on ... 'embedded in social context' is something associated with anthropologists and not historians**
- C. Alessandra had goals and interests similar to those of many other widows in her society ... **we don't even know what her actual goals and interests were ... least of all whether**



they were similar to the other widows in her society at the time ... this is least of all inferable

- D. Alessandra is an example of a Renaissance woman who expressed her individuality through independent action ... **historians were of the opinion that individuality was more linked with seeing the person independent from the society and nature ... her actions would not be dependent on any social context ... independent ... CORRECT**
- E. Alessandra was **exceptional (positive tone of the historians)** because she was able to effect changes in the social constraints placed upon women in her society ... **even the historians tone towards the whole subject matter is neutral ... no such changes that she might have affected have been talked of in the passage**

It can be inferred that the author of the passage believes which of the following about the study of Alessandra Strozzi done by the historian mentioned in the second paragraph?

- A. Alessandra was atypical of her time and was therefore an **inappropriate (implies negative tone of author)** choice for the subject of the historian's research ... **rather on the contrary the author feels her to be representative of the European women of the time as per lines 25 – 30 ... 180 degrees answer**
- B. In order to bolster her thesis, the historian adopted the anthropological perspective on personhood ... **there is no cross-adoption, as mentioned in this answer choice, seen anywhere in the passage**
- C. The historian argues that the boundaries of the conceptual self were not always firm and closed in Renaissance Europe ... **the historian makes no such argument in the passage ... never is she seen deviating her ideology or her perspective of individuality**
- D. In her study, the historian reverts to a traditional approach that is out of step with the work of other historians of Renaissance Europe ... **the passage nowhere hints that her work is atypical of the work done by other historians**
- E. The interpretation of Alessandra's actions that the historian puts forward is not supported by much of the historian's research ... **lines 20 – 25 mention that the way her own research interprets her actions is suggestive of the fact that her actions were actually a lot more dependent and embedded in social context ... CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 41)

Even more than mountainside slides of mud or snow,  
naturally occurring forest fires promote the survival of  
aspen trees. Aspens' need for fire **may** seem illogical  
since aspens are particularly vulnerable to fires;

**Comment [RN104]:** Presents the measure of the degree of possibility of one's response ... we might feel the concept is illogical ... this is a FACT ... not the author's belief ... one is obviously likely to feel the concept to be illogical

Line 5 whereas the bark of most trees consists of dead cells, the aspen's bark is a living, functioning tissue that—along with the rest of the tree—succumbs quickly to fire.

The explanation is that each aspen, while appearing to

Line 10 exist separately as a single tree, is in fact only the stem or shoot of a far larger organism. A group of thousands of aspens can actually constitute a single organism, called a clone, that shares an interconnected root system and a unique set of genes.

Line 15 Thus, when one aspen—a single stem—dies, the entire clone is affected. While alive, a stem sends hormones into the root system to suppress formation of further stems. But when the stem dies, its hormone signal also ceases. If a clone loses many stems

Line 20 simultaneously, the resulting hormonal imbalance triggers a huge increase in new, rapidly growing shoots that can outnumber the ones destroyed. An aspen grove needs to experience fire or some other disturbance regularly, or it will fail to regenerate and

Line 25 spread. Instead, coniferous trees will invade the aspen grove's borders and increasingly block out sunlight needed by the aspens.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author takes up seemingly illogical phenomenon in the first paragraph of the passage and spends the second paragraph explaining how the seemingly illogical is actually scientifically logical

The passage is purely factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to explain (remember all the explaining is in the second para ... therefore all we need to focus on is figuring out what is happening in the second para) the

- A. qualities that make a particular organism unique ... explaining qualities implies taking them up one by one and providing a brief as to how they qualify as qualities ... such is not the organization of the second passage
- B. evolutionary change undergone by a particular organism ... to explain an evolutionary change it is a must to mention the various stages that the organism went through on a timeline ... again such is not the organization of the passage
- C. reasons that a phenomenon benefits a particular organism ... exactly ... the author gives out reasons behind the benefitting act of a seemingly destructive phenomenon ... CORRECT
- D. way in which two particular organisms compete for a resource ... the second organism apart from the Aspen is the coniferous trees mentioned in the last sentence of the passage. Clearly the structure is not one of a competition between two organisms regarding common resources ... moreover there is no 'way' explained
- E. means by which a particular organism has been able to survive in a barren region ... firstly the word barren region is not verified from the content of the passage. Secondly the passage says that a factor promotes the survival which does not necessarily mean that it has survived in some unsaid space ... this answer distorts the message by being too definitive

It can be inferred from the passage that when aspen groves experience a "disturbance", such a disturbance

- A. leads to a hormonal imbalance within an aspen clone ... lines 19 – 22 confirm this option word by word ... CORRECT
- B. provides soil conditions that are favorable for new shoots ... soil conditions imply factors such as fertility, moistness etc ... such conditions are not a part of the passage
- C. thins out aspen groves that have become overly dense ... the thinning if anything can be a result of no "disturbance" as per the passage
- D. suppresses the formation of too many new aspen stems ... this again is an effect of no "disturbance" in the aspen grove area
- E. protects aspen groves by primarily destroying coniferous trees rather than aspens ... coniferous destruction and the link of such destruction with the aspens is the least inferable info from the context of the passage

The author of the passage refers to "the bark of most trees" most likely in order to emphasize the (purpose question)

- A. vulnerability of aspens to damage from fire when compared to other trees ... lines 4 – 8 confirm that it is the vulnerability to the fire that the author wants to contrast with that of the other trees ... CORRECT

- B. rapidity with which trees other than aspens succumb to destruction by fire ... **trees other than aspens rate of succumbing to fire is never talked of anywhere in the passage**
- C. relatively **great (extreme - AVOID)** degree of difficulty with which aspens catch on fire when compared to other trees ... **lines 5 – 8 suggest that the trees easily succumb to or catch fire**
- D. difference in appearance between the bark of aspens and that of other trees ... **the bark appearance is never discussed in the passage ... forget difference**
- E. benefits of fire to the survival of various types of trees ... **it is not the bark of the aspen that forms the reason that fire proves to be beneficial to the survival of the trees ... moreover benefits are discussed in the second reason and the phrase in question is part of the first para**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 42)

Many scholars have theorized that economic development, particularly industrialization and urbanization, contributes to the growth of participatory democracy; according to this theory, it would seem logical that women would both demand and gain suffrage in ever greater numbers whenever economic development expanded their economic opportunities.

**However (CONTRAST WORD)**, the economic development theory is inadequate to explain **certain** historical facts about the

implementation of women's suffrage. **For example**, why was women's suffrage, instituted nationally in the United States in 1920, not instituted nationally in Switzerland until the 1970's? Industrialization was well advanced in both countries by 1920: over 33 percent

of American workers were employed in various industries, as compared to 44 percent of Swiss

**Comment [RN105]:** Main Point of the Author ... though this is not something exclusively felt by the author and thus NOT an Opinion of the author. This is NOT a criticism either ... the author simply puts forth a matter of FACT.

**Comment [RN106]:** Implies that the main point of the author has to come from above this point ... the lower part of the passage cannot contain the main point

workers. Granted, Switzerland and the United States diverged in the degree to which the expansion of industry coincided with the degree of urbanization:

Line 20 only 29 percent of the Swiss population lived in cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants by 1920. However, urbanization cannot fully explain women's suffrage. Within the United States prior to 1920, for example, only less urbanized states had granted women

Line 25 suffrage. Similarly, less urbanized countries such as Cambodia and Ghana had voting rights for women long before Switzerland did. It is true that Switzerland's urbanized cantons (political subdivisions) generally enacted women's suffrage legislation earlier

Line 30 than did rural cantons. However, these cantons often shared other characteristics—similar linguistic backgrounds and strong leftist parties—that may help to explain this phenomenon.

**Author: NO OPINION**

There is no criticism or an opinion stated by the author at all in the passage. The author is not presenting his personal views in the passage, rather a matter of fact. Moreover, it cannot be debated that the theory cannot be applied to certain points in history ... a criticism is always something that one holds personally against someone / something.

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

Again there is no debated rebuttal or refutation or any negative feeling, just the presentation of a matter of FACT

**The author simply presents his discussion about whether a certain theory can be applied to one particular example of the implementation of woman's suffrage. This is not something that the author feels but something that he knows.**

## QUESTIONS

The passage states which of the following about Switzerland's urbanized cantons?

- A. These cantons shared characteristics other than urbanization that may have contributed to their implementation of women's suffrage ... **this option says exactly (word by word verified) what lines 30 – 33 of the passage have to say ... CORRECT**
- B. These cantons tended to be more politically divided than were rural cantons ... **the degree of political subdivision is not even mentioned in the passage forget a comparison between the two**
- C. These cantons shared with certain rural cantons characteristics such as similar linguistic backgrounds and strong leftist parties ... **VERIFY WORD TO WORD ... the cantons are mentioned to have shared similar linguistic backgrounds and strong leftist parties but among themselves and NOT with the rural cantons**
- D. The populations of these cantons shared similar views because urbanization furthered the diffusion of ideas among them ... **nothing of such sort is mentioned in the passage ... VIEWS shared by the individuals of the cantons is something not justified by the content of the passage**
- E. These cantons were comparable to the most **highly (extreme – AVOID)** urbanized states in the United States in their stance toward the implementation of women's suffrage ... **no such comparison is ever drawn in the passage**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. contrast two explanations for the implementation of women's suffrage ... **an explanation for implementation means a procedure for implementation ... this is never done in the passage ... no contrast drawn anywhere**
- B. demonstrate that one factor contributes more than another factor to the implementation of women's suffrage ... **a typical mathematical answer for a primary purpose question ... the only factors taken up for discussion are urbanization and similar linguistic backgrounds and strong linguistic parties ... and there is never a comparison or a connection drawn between the two**
- C. discuss the applicability of a theory for explaining the implementation of women's suffrage ... **this is exactly what the author is trying to say ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- D. clarify certain assumptions underlying a particular theory about the implementation of women's suffrage ... **clarify implies to make a statement / situation more comprehensible ... thus has a positive tone attached to it ... the tone of the passage is neutral ... there are no assumptions stated implicitly / explicitly in the passage**
- E. explain how a particular historical occurrence was causally connected to the implementation of women's suffrage ... **the passage is more about applicability of a theory to the historical occurrence rather than establishing a connection of any sort**

The passage suggests which of the following about urbanization in Switzerland and the United States by 1920?

- A. A greater percentage of Swiss industrial workers than American industrial workers lived in urban areas ... **the passage states the percentage of citizens, in general, that lived in cities of more than 10,000 inhabitants, was less for Switzerland ... considering the**



context of the passage it is difficult to estimate the percentage of industrial workers in the cities

- B. There were more cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants in Switzerland than there were in the United States ... **no such count or comparison is mentioned in the passage**
- C. Swiss workers living in urban areas were more likely to be employed in industry than were American workers living in urban areas ... **no comment on the likelihood of employment is ever made in the passage**
- D. Urbanized areas of Switzerland were more likely than similar areas in the United States to have strong leftist parties ... **there is no comment on the cantons (if any at all) in the United States let alone the likelihood that this answer choice discusses**
- E. A greater percentage of the United States population than the Swiss population lived in urban areas ... **lines 17 – 21 present statistics that confirm this answer ... CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 43)

In its 1903 decision in the case of Lone Wolf v.

Hitchcock, the United States Supreme Court rejected the efforts of three Native American tribes to prevent the opening of tribal lands to non-Indian settlement without tribal consent. In his study of the Lone Wolf case, Blue Clark properly emphasizes the Court's assertion of a virtually unlimited unilateral power of

Congress (the House of Representatives and the

Senate) over Native American affairs. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** he fails to

note the **decision's** more far-reaching impact: shortly

after Lone Wolf, the federal government totally

abandoned negotiation and execution of formal written

agreements with Indian tribes as a prerequisite for the

implementation of federal Indian policy. Many

commentators believe that this change had already

occurred in 1871 when—following a dispute between

**Comment [RN107]:** This is the main point as to why the passage was written and must directly / indirectly figure in the correct answer choice of the primary purpose question ... this is not what the author feels but what he notes as a matter of FACT ... this is not debatable

**Comment [RN108]:** The author from here on examines in detail the significance of the decision ... the significance that Clark has missed out on

the House and the Senate over which chamber should enjoy primacy in Indian affairs—Congress abolished the making of treaties with Native American tribes. But

Line 20 in reality the federal government continued to negotiate formal tribal agreements past the turn of the century, treating these documents not as treaties with sovereign nations requiring ratification by the Senate but simply as legislation to be passed by both houses  
Line 25 of Congress. The Lone Wolf decision ended this era of formal negotiation and finally did away with what had increasingly become the empty formality of obtaining tribal consent.

**Author: NO OPINION**

There is no criticism or an opinion stated by the author at all in the passage. The author is not presenting his personal views in the passage, rather a matter of fact. Moreover, it cannot be debated that the decision / historical event did not have far reaching consequences ... a criticism is always something that one holds personally against someone / something ... more like a negative feeling towards something

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

Again there is no debated rebuttal or refutation or any negative feeling, just the presentation of a matter of FACT

**The author notes that a historical decision (in the case of Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock) had more far reaching consequences than have been stated and examines the consequences to prove so**

### QUESTIONS

The author of the passage is primarily concerned with

- A. identifying similarities in two different theories ... **there are no theories ... only an analysis**
- B. evaluating a work of scholarship ... **'evaluating' signifies a balanced tone and / or opinion by the author. This is a neutral tone passage.**
- C. analyzing the significance of a historical event ... **this is exactly what the author is doing as he delves into the far reaching impact of the decision ... CORRECT**

- D. debunking a revisionist interpretation ... **debunking means to expose the FALSENESS of ... negative tone answer choice ... revisionist interpretation implies at least two interpretations in the passage ... there are none**
- E. exploring the relationship between law and social reality ... **exploring is usually when the author does not know what he is talking about ... no such vibe is obtained from the passage context**

**According to the passage, which of the following was true of relations between the federal government and Native American tribes?**

- A. Some Native American tribes approved of the congressional action of 1871 because it simplified their dealings with the federal government ... **no approval of such sort by any native American tribe is mentioned in the passage**
- B. Some Native American tribes were more eager to negotiate treaties with the United States after the Lone Wolf decision ... **no eagerness displayed on part of any of the tribes is mentioned in the passage**
- C. Prior to the Lone Wolf decision, the Supreme Court was reluctant to hear cases involving agreements negotiated between Congress and Native American tribes ... **'cases' of the sort – involving agreements negotiated between congress and the tribes are never mentioned in the passage ... no reluctance on part of the Supreme Court can be confirmed from the passage**
- D. Prior to 1871, the federal government sometimes negotiated treaties with Native American tribes ... **the author in his analysis of the decision's impact notes that the abandonment of negotiation and execution of formal written agreements with the native tribes actually had initiated much earlier (post 1871) ... this answer choice thus presents info that is an exact complement (as in complement of a SET – quant) of what the passage says in relation to 1871 ... hence the choice is inferable ... CORRECT**
- E. Following 1871, the House exercised more power than did the Senate in the government's dealings with Native American tribes ... **as per the passage post 1871, because of a dispute between the senate and the house the order of a formal documentation of the government dealings was abolished and both houses simply passed the agreement documentation as legislation without any ratification ... no house is said to exercise more power than the other**

**As an element in the argument presented by the author of the passage, the reference to Blue Clark's study of the Lone Wolf case serves primarily to (purpose question)**

- A. point out that this episode in Native American history has received inadequate attention from scholars ... **the author has nothing against the attention (whether or not inadequate) that the episode has received ... no mention of any scholars**
- B. support the contention of the author of the passage that the Lone Wolf decision had a greater long-term impact than did the congressional action of 1871 ... **mathematical answer ... no comparison is drawn between the decision and the action ... the action is mentioned to already have started what some thought happened post the decision**
- C. **challenge (negative tone)** the validity of the Supreme Court's decision confirming the unlimited unilateral power of Congress in Native American affairs ... **the validity**

(soundness) of the decision is never challenged by the author ... only its impact analyzed

- D. **refute (negative tone)** the argument of commentators who regard the congressional action of 1871 as the end of the era of formal negotiation between the federal government and Native American tribes ... **no commentators have ever regarded the action of 1871 as the end of the era of formal negotiation ... this was something that the author regarded the Lone Wolf decision as ... complete mix up of passage facts**
- E. introduce a view about the Lone Wolf decision that the author will expand upon ... **absolutely CORRECT ... this is exactly what the author has done post the contrast word in line 9**

According to the passage, which of the following resulted from the Lone Wolf decision?

- (A) The Supreme Court took on a greater role in Native American affairs ... **there is no mention of an increase or a decrease or the degree of role played by the supreme court in native American affairs ... moreover, the passage talks of native American affairs with the federal government not all their affairs**
- (B) Native American tribes lost their legal standing as sovereign nations in their dealings with the federal government, but their ownership of tribal lands was confirmed ... **the native tribes are never mentioned to have any such sort of standing let alone having lost it ... the sovereign nations mentioned in the passage is in context of the US requiring to act as one when going over a treaty ... Sovereign nations always require senates to ratify all treaties ... ownership of tribal land was never confirmed**
- (C) The federal government no longer needed to conclude a formal agreement with a Native American tribe in order to carry out policy decisions that affected the tribe ... **this is exactly what lines 11 – 14 narrate as a result of the decision ... CORRECT**
- (D) The federal government began to appropriate tribal lands for distribution to non-Indian settlers ... **this is never mentioned as a consequence of the decision**
- (E) Native American tribes were no longer able to challenge congressional actions by appealing to the Supreme Court ... **no such consequence is mentioned in the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 44)

Why firms adhere to or deviate from their strategic

plans is poorly understood. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, theory and

limited research suggest that the process through

which such plans emerge may play a part. In

Line 5 particular, top management decision-sharing—

**Comment [RN109]:** Gives us a clue that the passage is going to take up the deviation behaviour further in the passage

consensus-oriented, team-based decision-making—  
may increase the likelihood that firms will adhere to  
their plans, because those involved in the decision-  
making may be more committed to the chosen course

Line 10 of action, thereby increasing the likelihood that  
organizations will subsequently adhere to their plans.

**However (CONTRAST WORD),** the relationship between top management  
decision-sharing and adherence to plans may be

Line 15 affected by a firm's strategic mission (its fundamental

approach to increasing sales revenue and market  
share, and generating cash flow and short-term  
profits). At one end of the strategic mission

Line 20 continuum, "build" strategies are pursued when a firm  
desires to increase its market share and is willing to  
sacrifice short-term profits to do so. At the other end,  
"harvest" strategies are used when a firm is willing to  
sacrifice market share for short-term profitability and  
cash-flow maximization. Research and theory suggest

Line 25 that top management decision-sharing may have a  
more positive relationship with adherence to plans

among firms with harvest strategies than among firms  
with build strategies. In a study of strategic practices  
in several large firms, managers in harvest strategy  
scenarios were more able to adhere to their business

Line 30 plans. As one of the managers in the study explained  
it, this is partly because "[t]ypically all a manager has  
to do [when implementing a harvest strategy] is that  
which was done last year." Additionally, managers  
under harvest strategies may have fewer strategic

**Comment [RN110]:** Although the word 'may' may signal an opinion however the portion following may presents a factual possibility ... a possibility that is not something that is exclusively felt by the author alone ... it is like saying the car may become unstable when driven at speeds close to 120 mph ... this is not an opinion but a factual possibility ...

**Comment [RN111]:** While the first contrast word steers us in the direction of a correlation between two variables namely (management decision sharing and adherence to plans) the second contrast word takes a level deeper into the whole scenario by saying that the correlation might be affected (as in when exactly is it positive) by yet another factor which is strategic mission ...

- Line 35 options than do those under build strategies; it may therefore be easier to reach agreement on a particular course of action through decision-sharing, which will in turn tend to promote adherence to plans. Conversely, in a “build” strategy scenario, individual leadership,
- Line 40 rather than decision-sharing, may promote adherence to plans. Build strategies—which typically require leaders with strong personal visions for a firm’s future, rather than the negotiated compromise of the team-based decision—may be most closely adhered to when
- Line 45 implemented in the context of a clear strategic vision of an individual leader, rather than through the practice of decision-sharing.

**Comment [RN112]:** This is the first factor affecting the relationship ... the few lines preceding it are lines inspecting this factor’s viability ... which is exactly what examining is

**Comment [RN113]:** Factor # 2 affecting the relationship ... the few lines preceding it are lines inspecting this factor’s viability

#### **Author: NO OPINION**

Even though the passage sees the use of ‘may’ on several occasions, everywhere the word either presents a factual possibility (a possibility that can’t be debated over and is believed by the general public as a viable possibility) or a suggestion on part of some research

#### **Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author takes up little understood behaviour and takes up one possible inference (from the limited research) that might govern the behaviour. He then takes up factors that might affect the correlation between decision sharing and adherence to plans. The author is then seen inspecting the factors to make out how they might fit the explanation.

### **QUESTIONS**

Which of the following best describes the function of the first sentence of the second paragraph of the passage (line 12)? (purpose question)

- A. To answer a question posed in the first sentence of the passage about why firms adopt particular strategic missions ... **not that the sentence begins with a contrast word ... a contrast word can never introduce an answer ... moreover the passage never actually answers the question but only examines factors that affect the behaviour in question**
- B. To **refute (implies opinion and negative tone)** an argument made in the first paragraph about how top management decision-making affects whether firms will adhere to their strategic plans ... **there is no argument anywhere in the passage ... just suggestive inferences from limited research evidence**



- C. To **provide evidence (red flag - AVOID) supporting (positive tone)** a theory introduced in the first paragraph about what makes firms adhere to or deviate from their strategic plans ... **there is never any mention of any theory in the passage ... the first paragraph says everything about the behaviour not being understood in terms of its cause ... the passage never definitively says as to what makes firms adhere to their plans**
- D. To qualify an assertion made in the preceding sentence about how top management decision-making affects the likelihood that firms will adhere to their strategic plans ... **to qualify means to give official recognition to ... the sentence in question is actually recognizing the correlation / relationship mentioned just above and taking it up for further inspection – specifically the factors that might affect it ... CORRECT**
- E. To explain a distinction relied on in the second paragraph regarding two different kinds of strategic missions ... **the distinction rather than being relied on is simply mentioned in the second paragraph ... moreover, the option begins with the word 'to explain' and the sentence in question begins with 'however' ... an explanation is always more likely to begin with words such as 'for example' rather than 'however'**

The passage cites all of the following as differences between firms using build strategies and firms using harvest strategies EXCEPT

- A. their willingness to sacrifice short-term profits in order to build market share ... **mentioned in line 20**
- B. their willingness to sacrifice building market share in order to increase short-term profitability ... **mentioned in lines 22 – 23**
- C. the number of strategic options available to their managers ... **mentioned in lines 33 – 35**
- D. the relative importance they assign to maximizing cash-flow ... **maximizing cash flow as per the passage is synonymous to increasing short term profitability ... mentioned in lines 22 – 23**
- E. how likely they are to employ decision-sharing in developing strategic plans ... **this is an inversion of what the passage has to say ... the two strategies are not differentiated based on the likelihood of employing decision-sharing ... rather because of the difference in the two strategies there might be a difference in the extent of the use of decision sharing ... thus not mentioned ... CORRECT**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. identify some of the obstacles that make it difficult for firms to adhere to their strategic business plans ... **an OBSTACLE implies that the firms want to adhere to their plans yet something keeps them from doing so ... this is not confirmed from the passage which only mentions that the firms deviate ... whether they're fine with deviating is not a part of the passage ... 'identify' is too certain in usage for a passage that is just presenting possibilities (notice the frequent use of the word might)**
- B. compare two different theories concerning why firms adhere to or deviate from their strategic plans ... **there are no theories at all in the passage ... the passage is not a compare / contrast passage**

- C. **evaluate (implies balanced tone)** the utility of top management decision-sharing as a method of implementing the strategic mission of a business ... **the strategic mission is mentioned as a factor that might help better understand deviation behaviour ... strategic mission implementation is not said to be through decision sharing**
- D. discuss the respective advantages and disadvantages of build and harvest strategies among several large firms ... **'several large firms' is not confirmed from the passage ... advantages and disadvantages are never a part of the passage as such**
- E. examine some of the factors that may affect whether or not firms adhere to their strategic plans ... **this is exactly what the passage is doing ... taking up factors that might affect the correlation between top management decision sharing and adherence to plans and determining the factors' viability ... CORRECT**

The author includes the quotation in the highlighted text of the passage most probably in order to (purpose question)

- A. lend support to the claim that firms utilizing harvest strategies may be more likely to adhere to their strategic plans ... **the claim that this option talks of is explicitly mentioned in lines 23 – 27 of the passage ... just above the highlighted portion ... line 30 mentions the words 'this is partly because' which throws off a support scent that this answer option captures ... perfect ... CORRECT**
- B. **suggest (implies opinion by the author)** a reason that many managers of large firm prefer harvest strategies to build strategies ... **preference of one strategy over the other is never a part of the passage ... the passage introduces the two strategies with the intention to examine how they might affect the behaviour talked of in the first line of the passage**
- C. provide an example of a firm that adhered to its strategic plan because of the degree of its managers' commitment ... **no specific firm is singled out as an example in the passage that conformed to a particular behaviour ... the highlighted text singles out a manager not a firm**
- D. demonstrate that managers implementing harvest strategies generally have better strategic options than do managers implementing build strategies ... **typical mathematical answer ... infuses comparison where none exists ... the quantity of strategic options is mentioned rather than the quality that this option implies**
- E. give an example of a large firm that successfully implemented a harvest strategy ... **'large firm' is something that is not confirmed from the context of the passage ... there is no word at all on the implementation of any strategy be it harvest or build ... forget successful implementation**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 45)

While the most abundant and dominant species within

a particular ecosystem is often crucial in perpetuating the ecosystem, a “keystone” species, here defined as one whose effects are much larger than would be predicted from its appearance, also play a vital role.

**But (CONTRAST WORD)** because complex species interactions may be involved, identifying a keystone species by removing the species and observing changes in the ecosystem is problematic. It might seem that certain traits would

clearly define a species as a keystone species; for example, *Pisaster ochraceus* is often a keystone predator because it consumes and suppresses mussel populations, which in the absence of this starfish can be a dominant species. **But (transitional word)** such predation on a

dominant or potentially dominant species occurs in systems that do as well as in systems that do not have species that play keystone roles. **Moreover (transitional word)**, whereas *P. ochraceus* occupies an unambiguous keystone role on wave-exposed rocky headlands, in more wave-

sheltered habitats the impact of *P. ochraceus* predation is weak or nonexistent, and at certain sites sand burial is responsible for eliminating mussels.

Keystone status appears to depend on context, whether of particular geography or of such factors as community diversity (for example, a reduction in species diversity may thrust more of the remaining species into keystone roles) and length of species interaction (since newly arrived species in particular may dramatically affect ecosystem).

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Comment [RN114]:** Notice how the contrast word lays the foundation for the prime concern that will be taken up in the rest of the passage ... the identification has to figure in the primary purpose of the question

**Comment [RN115]:** Consideration # 1

**Comment [RN116]:** Consideration # 2

**Comment [RN117]:** Consideration # 3

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces the term 'keystone species' with a brief definition. The reader is made aware of how their identification not so straight forward after which the author delves into a few issues that one might face while trying to identify one.

The passage is purely factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. point out some of the differences between dominant and keystone species ... **anything and everything to do with dominant species is mentioned in the first line alone ... the first line too presents a similarity (the vital role) rather than a difference**
- B. emphasize the complexity of the interactions that occur between two particular species ... **the two species that are even mentioned in the passage are to exemplify the issues that are present in the course of identification of a keystone species ... the complexity that the passage discusses is in the identification not in the interactions ... has no mention of the word keystone**
- C. detail the effect of a particular habitat on the role occupied by a certain keystone species ... **detail implies to describe at length ... as far as the passage is concerned the effect is only mentioned in one line (lines 18 – 23) ... this although confirmed from the passage cannot be the main point of the passage**
- D. illustrate the importance of community diversity for the perpetuation of an ecosystem ... **the options has no mention of the word 'keystone' ... diversity is only mentioned to be one of the consideration in assigning a keystone role to a specie ... it not illustrated by virtue of the importance it holds**
- E. explain some considerations involved in determining whether a species occupies a keystone role ... **perfect match ... this is exactly what the passage in its entirety is doing ... CORRECT**

Which of the following, if true, would most clearly support the argument (keystone status depends on geography, community diversity and length of interaction) **about keystone status advanced in the last sentence of the passage?**

- A. A species of bat is primarily responsible for keeping insect populations within an ecosystem low, and the size of the insect population in turn affects bird species within that ecosystem ... **this option is simply an inter-related chain of interactions among three species ... the option addresses neither of the three factors (geography, community diversity and length of interaction) that the last line states**
- B. A species of iguana occupies a keystone role on certain tropical islands, but does not play that role on adjacent tropical islands that are inhabited by a greater number of animal species ... **perfect fit ... the answer option takes both geography and diversity mentioned in the last sentence into account ... CORRECT**
- C. Close observation of a savannah ecosystem reveals that more species occupy keystone roles within that ecosystem than biologists had previously believed ... **this option talks**

of the actual vs believed and that too the number of species occupying the keystone role ... again neither of the three factors in the last line of the sentence have been addressed

- D. As a keystone species of bee becomes more abundant, it has a larger effect on the ecosystem it inhabits ... **to support the last sentence, the option has to talk of at least one of the three factors mentioned there in that sentence ... this option talks of a positive correlation between size and effect of the species ... irrelevant to the argument**
- E. A species of mouse that occupies a keystone role in a prairie habitat develops coloration patterns that camouflage it from potential predators ... **adaptation of any manner is completely irrelevant to the argument in the last sentence which is very clear in terms of what three factors might affect the designation of keystone status**

The passage suggests which of the following about the identification of a species as a keystone species?

- A. Such an identification depends primarily on the species' relationship to the dominant species ... **the word primarily makes this answer option a bit too extreme ... moreover, lines 14 – 17 imply something completely opposite to what this answer option says ... 180 degrees**
- B. Such an identification can best be made by removing the species from a particular ecosystem and observing changes that occur in the ecosystem ... **lines 6 – 9 confirm that the method mentioned in the answer option has little scope ... 180 degrees answer**
- C. Such an identification is likely to be less reliable as an ecosystem becomes less diverse ... **typical mathematical answer ... reliability of identification is never compared with regards to the diversity of the ecosystem ... unnecessarily infused comparison**
- D. Such an identification seems to depend on various factors within the ecosystem ... **this is an exact paraphrase of what lines 23 onwards in the passage have to say. CORRECT**
- E. Such an identification can **best (superlative - AVOID)** be made by observing predation behaviour ... **the predation behaviour mentioned in the passage, to begin with, is on the dominant species and is not talked of in the generic sense that this option puts it ... moreover the predation is not always said to be a reliable indicator as per lines 14 – 17 of the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 46)

(This passage is based on an article written in 2000.)

The traditional model of employer-employee relations

in the United States was a “psychological contract” in which employees made long-term commitments to organizations in exchange for long-term job security, training and development, and internal opportunities for promotion. Beginning mainly with the recession in the early 1970’s, this paradigm began to unravel. Organizations began using extensive downsizing and outsourcing to decrease the number of permanent employees in the workforce. Among employees this situation has resulted in a decided shift in desire: instead of working their way up in an organization, many now prefer to work their way out. Entrepreneurship at the small business administration schools. Several factors have generated movement from the old paradigm to the new one. Organizations have had legitimate and pressing reasons to shift to a new paradigm of employer-employee relations. Large numbers of permanent employees make it difficult for organizations to respond quickly to downturns in demand by decreasing payroll costs. The enormous rights in wrongful discharge suites has created incentives for organizations to use temporary, contract, and leased employees in order to distance themselves from potential litigation problems. Moreover, top management is under increased pressure from shareholders to generate higher and higher levels of return on investment in the short run, resulting in declines in hiring, increases in layoffs, and

**Comment [RN118]:** This is a sort of a fulcrum or an epicentre around which the rest of the passage revolves ... above this line is the build-up wherein the author states the shift in the earlier pattern ... below this line are the reasons



shortage of funds for employee development.

At the same time, a lack of forthrightness on the part of organizations has led to increased cynicism among employees about management's motivation and

Line 35 competence. Employees are now working 15 percent more hours per week than they were 20 years ago, but organizations acknowledge this fact only by running stress-management workshops to help employees to cope. Sales people are being asked to

Line 40 increase sales at the same time organizations have cut travel, phone, and advertising budgets. Employees could probably cope effectively with changes in the psychological contract if organizations were more forthright about how they were changing it. But the

Line 45 euphemistic jargon used by executives to justify the changes they were implementing frequently backfires; rather than engendering sympathy for management's position, it sparks employees' desire to be free of the organization all together. In a recent study of

Line 50 employees' attitudes about management, 49 percent of the sample strongly agreed that "management will take advantage of you if given the chance."

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author states an earlier pattern or a paradigm along with certain changes the paradigm has undergone beginning a certain point of time. The author then states the reasons or the factors causing the paradigm shift in employee – employer relations.

The passage is purely narrative and / or factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. discuss the financial implications of a recent shift in attitudes among workers ... **the paradigm shift is discussed in terms of what possibly caused it ... NOT what its effects or implications (conclusions drawn in terms of the effects it caused) of any sort were ... financial implications is not confirmed from the passage**
- B. **propose (implies opinion)** a new approach for businesses to increase loyalty among their employees ... **no proposal of any sort and certainly not of any novel approach ... the loyalty of employees is never taken by the author as an issue that is to be solved ... even in lines 41 – 44, via the use of the word ‘could’, the author is presenting a hypothetical (yet factual) possibility rather than a proposal**
- C. **defend (implies positive tone)** certain business practices in light of criticism of corporations, actions in a recent past ... **no corporates are seen criticizing anything to which the author may be seen presenting a defence of any sort**
- D. speculate about possible long term benefits of a recent change in the general business climate ... **general business climate is too general to point to employee – employer relation that the passage takes up specifically ... specific to general error ... again the passage is about what caused the shift ... NOT what they shift may cause**
- E. consider some of the factors contributing to a major shift in employer-employee relationships ... **this is exactly the author’s purpose behind writing the passage ... factors causing the shift in the paradigm ... CORRECT ... the word ‘major’ may be confirmed from lines 12 – 13 – working their way up → way out ... something that is repeated with equal intensity in lines 48 – 49 – to be free of the organization all together**

The passage suggests that which of the following is a legitimate reason for organizations’ shift to the new model of employer-employee relations?

- A. Organizations tend to operate more effectively when they have a high manager-to-employee ratio ... **efficiency mentioned in the passage in lines 41 – 44 forms a part of a hypothetical possibility that the author presents and not of a reason / cause for the shift ... the ratio is nowhere implied from the context of the passage**
- B. Organizations can move their operations to less expensive locations more easily when they have fewer permanent employees ... **fewer permanent employees allows firms to respond better to downturns ... whether this response includes moving to a cheaper location is something not confirmed from the passage**
- C. Organizations have found that they often receive higher quality work when they engage in outsourcing ... **lines 8 – 10 confirm that outsourcing is linked to decreasing the number of permanent employees ... ‘higher quality work’ has no mention or link with outsourcing as per the passage**
- D. Organizations with large pools of permanent workers risk significant financial losses if the demand for their product or service decreases ... **lines 19 – 21 make it clear that the ‘large number of permanent employees’, which is an exact paraphrase of ‘large pools of permanent workers’ mentioned in the option, make it difficult to respond to**

‘downturns in demand’, which again is an exact paraphrase of ‘demand for their product or service decreases’ mentioned in the option, by decreasing payroll costs ... if decreasing payroll costs becomes near impossible at a time of diminished demand ... financial losses are bound to occur ... inferable. CORRECT. The word ‘significant’ in the option may be justified by the fact that the downturn requires the decrease in payroll of a large number of employees ... lines 22 – 26 explain further costs

- E. Organizations are under increasing pressure to adopt new technologies that often obviate the need for certain workers ... **the increased pressure mentioned in lines 27 – 28 is to generate higher returns ... the passage nowhere implies or mentions explicitly that the adoption of new technologies will lead to higher returns generated**

Which of the following best characterizes the function of the final sentence of the passage?

- A. It is such as an alternative explanation for phenomenon discussed earlier in the passage ... **the only phenomenon discussed in the passage is the paradigm shift ... an alternative explanation would mean something that by itself explains fully the phenomenon ... however, the last line is simply a survey data that substantiates one of the possible reasons behind the phenomenon**
- B. It provides data intended to correct a common misconception ... **there is never any misconception or a correction as such in the passage**
- C. It further weakens an argument that is being challenged by the author ... **the author is simply mentioning possible reasons that could have been responsible for the paradigm shift ... there is never any argument presented in the passage that the author may attempt to weaken**
- D. It introduces a specific piece of evidence in support of a claim made at beginning of the final paragraph ... **the second para begins from line 32 (‘At the same time ...’) ... the claim talks of cynicism among employees among management’s motivation ... the evidence backs this claim ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- E. It answers a question that is implicit in the preceding sentence ... **the preceding sentence is more like a matter of fact that the euphemistic jargons backfire ... there is no implied question in this claim**

The passage suggests that organizations’ movement to the “new paradigm” is based in part on the expectation that wrongful discharge suites (lines 22 – 26) against employers are?

- A. less likely to be filed by non-managerial employees than by managers ... **the passage is concerned with employers vs employees ... never with managerial and non-managerial employees**
- B. less likely to be filed by leased employees than by contract employees ... **the passage says that the employers are more inclined towards hiring leased AND contract employees ... thereby implying that such suits are less likely by both the leased as well as the contract employees ... however, the comparison in likelihood between the two (contract and leased) is never taken up**

- C. less likely to be filed by contract employees than by permanent employees ... **exactly ... this is exactly why lines 22 – 26 mention that with the intent to avoid potential litigation issues, the employers prefer contract to permanent employees. CORRECT**
- D. more likely to be filed by employees with a long history in the organization than by newer hirers ... **new hires are never a part of the discussion in the passage**
- E. more likely to be filed in small organizations than in large ones ... **organizations are never compared with respect to their size for any inference whatsoever in the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 47)

The fields of antebellum (pre-Civil War) political history

and women's history use separate sources and focus

on separate issues. Political historians, examining

sources such as voting records, newspapers, and

Line 5 politicians' writings, focus on the emergence in the

1840's of a new "American political nation," and since

women were neither voters nor politicians, they

receive little discussion. Women's historians,

meanwhile, have shown little interest in the subject of

Line 10 party politics, instead drawing on personal papers,

legal records such as wills, and records of female

associations to illuminate women's domestic lives, their

moral reform activities, and the emergence of the

woman's rights movement.

***the passage is purely factual up till this point ...***

Line 15 **However (CONTRAST WORD),** most historians have underestimated the

extent and significance of women's political allegiance

in the antebellum period. ***(all evidence beyond this point)*** For example, in the

presidential election campaigns of the 1840's, the

**Comment [RN119]:** After the purely factual description of how the two groups go about their research, the author makes a factual observation (and NOT a comment) about one of the groups ... this is NOT a criticism ... the significance of women's political allegiance is something that is peripheral (at most) to the work of political historians ... had they underestimated something that forms the very core of their research, then that something might have stood good chances of forming a criticism ...

Virginia Whig party strove to win the allegiance of

Line 20 Virginia's women by inviting them to rallies and speeches. According to Whig propaganda, women who turned out at the party's rallies gathered information that enabled them to mold party-loyal families, reminded men of moral values that transcended party

Line 25 loyalty, and conferred moral standing on the party.

Virginia Democrats, in response, began to make similar appeals to women as well. By the mid-1850's the inclusion of women in the rituals of party politics had become commonplace, and the ideology that

Line 30 justified such inclusion had been assimilated by the Democrats.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author mentions how two different groups, namely the political historians and the women's historians, approach their field of work. The author then makes note of an observation regarding the work of the political historians. The author then follows this up with an example. The author has no input of his own.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage as a whole is to

- A. examine the tactics of antebellum political parties with regard to women ... **examine means to carefully analyse with the aim of interpreting or inferring something ... the tactics as such are mentioned in the second paragraph as evidence to support a point of observation that forms the main idea of the passage**
- B. trace the effect (chronology answer - AVOID) of politics on the emergence of the woman's rights movement ... **the emergence of the women's rights movement is mentioned as a source of information for the women's historians ... the effects of politics on the emergence is not a part of the passage**
- C. point out a deficiency in the study of a particular historical period ... **exactly what the passage is concerned with ... all words justified from the passage ... to note an observation is synonymous to pointing something out ... CORRECT**
- D. discuss the ideologies of opposing antebellum political parties ... **discuss implies to detail at length the ideologies of the political parties ... the passage only mentions their thoughts towards the involvement of women and nothing more**

- E. contrast the methodologies in two differing fields of historical inquiry ... **only the source of information and the issues focussed are mentioned in the first paragraph ... these two do not represent the methodology, which involves a lot more ... the methodologies thus are never discussed ... secondly, the passage is not a contrast passage at all**

According to the second paragraph of the passage, Whig propaganda included the assertion that

- A. women should enjoy more political rights than they did ... **political rights of women is not a part of the passage**
- B. women were the **most (superlative - AVOID)** important influences on political attitudes within a family ... **the whig propaganda assumed that women 'who turned up at rallies' would be in a better position to mould party loyal families ... that women were already an important influence within the family is not the assumption that the whig propaganda held**
- C. women's reform activities reminded men of important moral values ... **women's reform activities is something that is not verified from the passage ... the inclusion in the rallies reminded men of the important moral values and not the reform activities**
- D. women's demonstrations at rallies would influence men's voting behavior ... **nothing of such sort is ever mentioned in the passage ... women's demonstrations is not a part of the context of the passage being discussed**
- E. women's presence at rallies would enhance the moral standing of the party ... **verified word by word from line 25 of the passage ... CORRECT**

According to the passage, which of the following was true of Virginia Democrats in the mid-1850's?

- A. They feared that their party was losing its strong moral foundation ... **nothing is commented on about the moral standing of the Virginia democrats ... although the need for inclusion was seen necessary by the democrats, it cannot be confirmed whether this need was because the party was losing moral foundation**
- B. They believed that the Whigs' inclusion of women in party politics had led to the Whigs' success in many elections ... **'Whigs' success in MANY elections' is not mentioned anywhere in the passage ... the passage never implies that any success in elections was the reason the democrats thought to include women in their political rituals**
- C. They created an ideology that justified the inclusion of women in party politics ... **the ideology is mentioned to be assimilated by the democrats not CREATED**
- D. They wanted to demonstrate that they were in support of the woman's rights movement ... **the women's right movement is a part of the first para ... where it is mentioned as a source for the women's historians ... the democrats supporting the movement is not a part of the passage**
- E. They imitated the Whigs' efforts to include women in the rituals of party politics ... **completely inferable from lines 26 – 27 ... CORRECT**



The author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements regarding most historians of the antebellum period?

- A. They have **failed (strongly negative tone)** to adequately contrast the differing roles that women played in the Democratic and Whig parties in the 1850's ... **the roles played by women in the two parties is not a part of the passage**
- B. They have **failed (strongly negative tone)** to see that political propaganda advocating women's political involvement did not reflect the reality of women's actual roles ...
- C. They have incorrectly assumed that women's party loyalty played a small role in Whig and Democratic party politics ... **to incorrectly assume a smaller role is synonymous to underestimating ... thus the option is an exact paraphrase of lines 15 – 17 ... CORRECT**
- D. They have misinterpreted descriptions of women's involvement in party politics in records of female associations and women's personal papers ... **misinterpretation implies extracting out the wrong meaning from a piece of fact ... no such misinterpretation is mentioned in the passage ... the passage explicitly mentions in lines 8 – 13 that women's historians paid little attention to party politics while going through female associations and personal papers ... therefore the kind of misinterpretation that this option speaks of is anyway not inferable**
- E. They have overlooked the role that women's political activities played in the woman's rights movement ... **women's political activities is not a part of the passage ... the women's right movement is mentioned as a source for the women's historians ... that's all ... not a lick more about the movement is discussed**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 48)

Over the last 150 years, large stretches of salmon

habitat have been eliminated by human activity:

mining, livestock grazing, timber harvesting, and

agriculture as well as recreational and urban

Line 5 development. The numerical effect is obvious: there

are fewer salmon in degraded regions than in pristine

ones; **however (CONTRAST WORD)**, habitat loss also has the potential to

reduce genetic diversity. This is most evident in cases

where it results in the extinction of entire salmon

Line 10 populations. **Indeed (transitional word)**, most analysts believe that some

**Comment [RN120]:** The contrast word introduces the 'not so obvious' effect ... notice how the rest of the passage is geared towards explaining how the 'not so obvious' effect is also a reason for concern ... this line must fare (directly / indirectly) in the main idea of the passage ...

**Comment [RN121]:** Confirms the direction in which the passage is headed ... i.e. towards explaining the impact of the 'not so obvious' effect

kind of environmental degradation underlies the demise of many extinct salmon populations. **Although** (transitional word) some rivers have been recolonized, the unique genes of the original populations have been lost.

**Comment [RN122]:** Further support

**Line 15** Large-scale disturbances in one locale also have the potential to alter the genetic structure of populations in neighboring areas, even if those areas have pristine habitats. Why? Although the homing instinct of salmon to their natal stream is strong, a fraction of the fish

**Comment [RN123]:** One 'verified' source of 'loss of genetic diversity' ... notice how this is introduced to later connect human activity with loss of genetic diversity among the fish

**Line 20** returning from the sea (rarely more than 15 percent)

stray and spawn in nearby streams. Low levels of straying are crucial, since the process provides a source of novel genes and a mechanism by which a location can be repopulated should the fish there

**Line 25** disappear. Yet high rates of straying can be problematic because misdirected fish may interbreed with the existing stock to such a degree that any local adaptations that are present become diluted. Straying rates remain relatively low when environmental

**Line 30** conditions are stable, but can increase dramatically when streams suffer severe disturbance. The 1980 volcanic eruption of Mount Saint Helens, for example, sent mud and debris into several tributaries of the Columbia River. For the next couple of years,

**Line 35** steelhead trout (a species included among the salmonids) returning from the sea to spawn were forced to find alternative streams. As a consequence, their rates of straying, initially 16 percent, rose to more than 40 percent overall.

Line 40 **Although** (transitional word) no one has quantified changes in the rate of straying as a result of the disturbances caused by humans, there is no reason to suspect that the effect would be qualitatively different than what was seen in the **aftermath of the Mount Saint Helens**

**Comment [RN124]:** The above description of how 'natural disturbances' can cause low genetic diversity – 'the not so obvious impact' – is now very subtly mapped onto human activity thereby implying that the unnatural human activity qualitatively results in the same.

Line 45 **eruption.** Such a dramatic increase in straying from damaged areas to more pristine streams results in substantial gene flow, which can in turn lower the overall fitness of subsequent generations.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage begins by mentioning that environmental degradation caused by humans has had an obvious effect (the reduction in absolute numbers of the fish) as well as a 'not so obvious effect' (loss in genetic diversity) ... he then takes up the latter effect to describe how this effect is also indeed linked to human activity ... the author has no input of his own.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **argue against (implies opinion and a negative tone)** a conventional explanation for the extinction of certain salmon populations and suggest an alternative ... **the explanation given in lines 10 – 12 itself functions to support the assertion that degradation can also cause loss of gene diversity among the fish ... however, the explanation is not the point of issue here ... there is no alternative offered in the passage**
- B. **correct (signifies rectification and hence an opinion)** a common misunderstanding about the behavior of salmon in response to environmental degradation caused by human activity ... **nowhere does the passage imply that the behaviour of the fish is misunderstood ... the only understanding of the behaviour of the fish in response is that of the author and it would be nonsensical to correct one's own assertion**
- C. compare the effects of human activity on salmon populations with the effects of natural disturbances on salmon populations ... **the passage is not a comparison passage ... natural disturbances are mapped onto human activity to say that qualitatively their effect is the same**
- D. differentiate the particular effects of various human activities on salmon habitats ... **'various human activities' mentioned in the first line of the passage are collectively or each of them said to produce the same effects ... reduction in number and loss in gene diversity ... one activity is never shown to have an effect different from the other**

- E. describe how environmental degradation can cause changes in salmon populations that extend beyond a numerical reduction ... **environmental degradation implies human activity ... changes beyond reduction are the 'not so obvious ones' ... this option says exactly what the author is trying to do in the passage, which is to concentrate on the not so obvious effect ... CORRECT. The passage is a description passage.**

**It can be inferred from the passage that the occasional failure of some salmon to return to their natal streams in order to spawn provides a mechanism by which**

- A. pristine streams that are near polluted streams become polluted themselves ... **stream pollution is not a part of the context of the passage ... the straying and spawning as per the passage is a source of novel genes and repopulation rather than any pollution ... pollution, moreover, is too vague a term to signify environmental degradation**
- B. the particular adaptations of a polluted stream's salmon population can be preserved without dilution ... **if the straying and spawning is below 15 percent of the number of fish returning, then the adaptations of a particular stream, into which the strayed population enters, will indeed not be diluted, however, this does not imply that the mechanism PRESERVES such dilution ... the option mistakes something (dilution) that does not happen by virtue of just staying in certain limits (below 15 percent straying) to be the main product (which actually is novel gene source and recolonization) of the mechanism**
- C. the number of salmon in pristine habitats decreases relative to the number in polluted streams ... **the option has a detrimental tone attached to it, whereas the mechanism talked of in the question has a beneficiary tone attached to it as per the passage ... there is never any comparison between the numbers in pristine and polluted habitats**
- D. an environmentally degraded stream could be recolonized by new salmon populations should the stream recover ... **exactly ... this is an exact paraphrase of what lines 21 – 25 have to say ... CORRECT ... environmentally degraded here can be seen to refer to a stream that has suffered a near extinction reduction in the number of the fish**
- E. the extinction of the salmon populations that spawn in polluted streams is accelerated ... **the rate of extinction is not a part of the passage and is thus not verified by the context ... moreover, again this option has a detrimental tone attached to it towards the mechanism ... whereas, the occasional straying mechanism as per the passage is actually beneficial for the fish species discussed in the passage**

**According to the passage, human activity has had which of the following effects on salmon populations?**

- A. An increase in the size of salmon populations in some previously polluted rivers ... **if anything there was a reduction in the numbers of the fish in environmentally degraded streams ... the obvious effect ... the option is 180 degrees**
- B. A decline in the number of salmon in some rivers ... **this is mentioned in the passage to be the obvious effect ... lines 5 – 7 ... perfect match. CORRECT**
- C. A decrease in the number straying salmon in some rivers ... **any sort of disturbance, be it natural or unnatural, if anything leads to an increase, as per the passage, in the number of salmon straying into nearby streams ... 180 degrees answer**

- D. A decrease in the gene flow between salmon populations that spawn in polluted streams and populations that spawn in pristine streams ... **the speed of the gene flow process as such is never a part of the passage**
- E. A decline in the vulnerability of some salmon populations to the effects of naturally occurring habitat destruction ... **a decline in vulnerability implies better adaptation ... human activity is said to be similar to natural disturbances in that it increases the percentage that strays to nearby streams thereby diluting the local adaptations ... this option is thus 180 degrees**

The author mentions the “aftermath of the Mount Saint Helens eruption” most likely in order to (purpose question)

- A. provide an example of the process that allows the repopulation of rivers whose indigenous salmon population has become extinct ... **the mentioned is an example of a natural large-scale disturbance that disrupted the straying and spawning percentage ... took it near 40 percent ... the percentage is too high to ensure repopulation**
- B. indicate the extent to which the disturbance of salmon habitat by human activity in one stream might affect the genetic structure of salmon populations elsewhere ... **the answer option has the word ‘extent to which ...’ ... this is clearly a quantitative measure, however, the passage acknowledges that although quantitatively the human intervention has never been measured, qualitatively they might be the same ... the volcano example serves as a qualitative rather than a quantitative measure**
- C. provide a standard of comparison against which the impact of human activity on the gene flow among salmon populations should be measured ... **a standard of comparison implies a reference relative to which human activity may be measured ... the last sentence of the passage confirms that qualitatively human activity can cause similar damage to the pristine streams ... he therefore compares the disturbance caused by human activity with that caused by large scale natural disturbance ... exactly what the option says indirectly ... CORRECT**
- D. show how salmon’s homing instinct can be impaired as a result of severe environmental degradation of their natal streams ... **the portion in the passage where the author mentions this is where the author’s qualitatively comparing natural and unnatural (human interference) in terms of the similarity they share in the impairment they cause ... the option has no mention of human activity as the cause**
- E. show why straying rates in salmon populations remain generally low except when spawning streams suffer severe environmental disturbance ... **there is never any explanation given in the passage as to why the spawning rates remain below 15% of the returning population ... the ‘why’ in this answer choice is not justified**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 49)

Recently biologists have been interested in a tide-associated periodic behavior displayed by the diatom *Hantzschia virgata*, a microscopic golden-brown alga that inhabits that portion of a shoreline washed by tides (the intertidal zone). Diatoms of this species, sometimes called “commuter” diatoms, remain burrowed in the sand during high tide, and emerge on the sand surface during the daytime low tide. Just before the sand is inundated by the rising tide, the diatoms burrow again. Some scientists hypothesize that commuter diatoms know that it is low tide because they sense an environmental change, such as an alteration in temperature or a change in pressure caused by tidal movement. However, when diatoms are observed under constant conditions in a laboratory, they still display periodic behavior, continuing to burrow on schedule for several weeks. This indicates that commuter diatoms, rather than relying on environmental cues to keep time, possess an internal pacemaker or biological clock that enables them to anticipate periodic changes in the environment. A commuter diatom has an unusually accurate biological clock, a consequence of the unrelenting environmental pressures to which it is subjected; any diatoms that do not burrow before the tide arrives are washed away.

This is not to suggest that the period of this biological

Line 5

Line 10

Line 15

Line 20

Line 25

**Comment [RN125]:** The entire first para is written to arrive at this one fact ... this one line is sufficient to represent the first paragraph in its entirety ...

**Comment [RN126]:** The author here determines the nature of biological influence that might affect the tide associated periodic behaviour ...



clock is immutably fixed. Biologists have concluded that even though a diatom does not rely on the environment to keep time, environmental factors—including changes in the tide's hydrostatic pressure, salinity, mechanical agitation, and temperature—can alter the period of its biological clock according to changes in the tidal cycle. In short, the relation between an organism's biological clock and its environment is similar to that between a wristwatch and its owner: the owner cannot make the watch run faster or slower, but can reset the hands. However, this relation is complicated in intertidal dwellers such as commuter diatoms by the fact that these organisms are exposed to the solar-day cycle as well as to the tidal cycle, and sometimes display both solar-day and tidal periods in a single behavior. Commuter diatoms, for example, emerge only during those low tides that occur during the day.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage mentions and discusses a periodic tide-associated peculiar behaviour in a particular algae species. The author then takes up biological (internal pacemaker) as well as environmental influences on the periodicity of the behaviour and determines the nature or the condition of this influence ... the author is thus seen examining how the factors influence the behaviour

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests which of the following about the accuracy of the commuter diatom's biological clock?

- A. The accuracy of the commuter diatom's biological clock varies according to changes in the tidal cycle ... **incorrect inference ... lines 22 – 24 explicitly mention that the biological clock is unusually accurate ... the changes may only shift the time period,**

**Comment [RN127]:** The author is seen here interpreting from facts, how the environmental factors affect the tide associated periodic behaviour ... this right here is the author determining the nature of how the factor influences the behaviour ... gives off an examining scent

either delaying its occurrence or hastening it, however, the changes are never mentioned to have any effect on the accuracy as such

- B. The unusual accuracy that characterizes the commuter diatom's biological clock is rare among intertidal species ... **the reason the author calls the accuracy unusual is not that it is infrequently encountered when studying intertidal species (which are not a part of the context by the way), but that the accuracy is consistent in all conditions possible (constant and variable) ... the rarity among the species mentioned cannot be confirmed from the passage**
- C. The commuter diatom's biological clock is likely to be more accurate than the biological clock of a species that is subject to less intense environmental pressures ... **although it might seem not inferable at first ... a closer look at lines 22 – 26 tells us that the extreme accuracy is a consequence of intense environmental pressures ... extrapolating from this very point we can infer that higher the intensity of environmental pressures the more accurate the clock ... CORRECT**
- D. The commuter diatom's biological clock tends to be more accurate than the biological clocks of most other species because of the consistency of the tidal cycle ... **the accuracy of the commuter diatom's biological clock is never compared with that of the rest of the species ... typical mathematical answers – AVOID**
- E. The accuracy of the commuter diatom's biological clock tends to fluctuate when the diatom is observed under variable laboratory conditions ... **no such fluctuation is mentioned in the passage ... the laboratory conditions mentioned are given to be constant rather than variable**

The author of the passage compares the relationship between an organism's biological clock and its environment to the relation between a wristwatch and its owner most probably in order to (purpose question)

- A. point out a fundamental difference between the function of biological clocks in organisms and the use of mechanical clocks by humans ... **biological clocks in organisms is too general for a passage that only deals with one particular organism ... specific to general error ... the author is more inclined towards an analogy rather than pointing out a difference**
- B. illustrate the way in which the period of an organism's biological clock can be altered by environmental factors ... **the author is mainly concerned with drawing an analogy to better explain the influence of environmental factors ... exactly what this option says ... CORRECT**
- C. suggest that there are important similarities between the biological clock in organisms such as the commuter diatom and the biological clock in humans ... **similarities in plural is not supported by the passage ... biological clock in humans is never taken up in the passage anywhere**
- D. support an argument regarding the methods used by certain organisms to counteract the influence of the environment on their biological clocks ... **to counteract is to nullify the effect or influence of environmental factors ... the environmental factors, however, in the passage, are seen to affect the periodic behaviour ... there is neither**

any argument in the passage (it is an inspecting passage) nor any methods used by the organisms

- E. **question (negative tone)** the accuracy of the biological clock in organisms such as the commuter diatom ... **the accuracy of the biological clocks in the diatom is never doubted or questioned ... the clocks are mentioned by the author in the passage to be unusually accurate**

According to the passage, the periodic behavior displayed by commuter diatoms under constant laboratory conditions is characterized by which of the following?

- A. Greater unpredictability than the corresponding behavior under natural conditions ... **the behaviour was seen to be consistently periodic in even in the laboratory conditions ... unpredictability implies a change in the periodic behaviour in the laboratory**
- B. A consistent periodic schedule in the short term ... **the periodic schedule was consistent as per the passage ... 'the short term' is justified by the fact that the experiment was simulated for a span of several weeks (which is something like 6 maybe 7 weeks say) and the simulation was of a process that has been ongoing since several thousand years at least ... the several weeks thus form a much shorter term as compared to the time span on which the actual process occurs ... consider as an example the time the planet pluto takes to revolve around the sun – 250 years – now any phenomenon related to the planet revolution spanning several weeks will be referred to as a 'short term'. CORRECT**
- C. No difference over the long term from the corresponding behavior under natural conditions ... **this option leaves open the possibility that, in the short run or in the initial stage, there might have been differences in behaviour (otherwise the option could have said something like 'no difference throughout ... '). The passage, however, mentions the behaviour to be consistently similar in periodicity throughout, and not just in the long run**
- D. Initial variability caused by the constant conditions of the laboratory ... **there was no variability under laboratory conditions which is why the author mentions the behaviour to be consistently periodic**
- E. Greater sensitivity to environmental factors than is the case under natural conditions ... **sensitivity under laboratory conditions is not a part of the context of the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 50)

Recently biologists have been interested in a tide-associated periodic behavior displayed by the diatom *Hantzschia virgata*, a microscopic golden-brown alga

that inhabits that portion of a shoreline washed by  
Line 5 tides (the intertidal zone). Diatoms of this species,  
sometimes called “commuter” diatoms, remain  
burrowed in the sand during high tide, and emerge on  
the sand surface during the daytime low tide. Just  
before the sand is inundated by the rising tide, the  
Line 10 diatoms burrow again. Some scientists hypothesize  
that commuter diatoms know that it is low tide  
because they sense an environmental change, such as  
an alteration in temperature or a change in pressure  
caused by tidal movement. However, when diatoms  
Line 15 are observed under constant conditions in a  
laboratory, they still display periodic behavior,  
continuing to burrow on schedule for several weeks.  
This indicates that commuter diatoms, rather than  
relying on environmental cues to keep time, possess  
Line 20 an internal pacemaker or biological clock that enables  
them to anticipate periodic changes in the  
environment. A commuter diatom has an unusually  
accurate biological clock, a consequence of the  
unrelenting environmental pressures to which it is  
Line 25 subjected; any diatoms that do not burrow before the  
tide arrives are washed away.  
This is not to suggest that the period of this biological  
clock is immutably fixed. Biologists have concluded  
that even though a diatom does not rely on the  
Line 30 environment to keep time, environmental factors—  
including changes in the tide’s hydrostatic pressure,  
salinity, mechanical agitation, and temperature—can

**Comment [RN128]:** The entire first para is written to arrive at this one fact ... this one line is sufficient to represent the first paragraph in its entirety ...

**Comment [RN129]:** The author here determines the nature of biological influence that might affect the tide associated periodic behaviour ...

alter the period of its biological clock according to

changes in the tidal cycle. In short, the relation

Line 35 between an organism's biological clock and its environment is similar to that between a wristwatch and its owner: the owner cannot make the watch run faster or slower, but can reset the hands. However,

this relation is complicated in intertidal dwellers such

Line 40 as commuter diatoms by the fact that these organisms are exposed to the solar-day cycle as well as to the tidal cycle, and sometimes display both solar-day and tidal periods in a single behavior. Commuter diatoms, for example, emerge only during those low tides that

Line 45 occur during the day.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage mentions and discusses a periodic tide-associated peculiar behaviour in a particular algae species. The author then takes up biological (internal pacemaker) as well as environmental influences on the periodicity of the behaviour and determines the nature or the condition of this influence ... the author is thus seen examining how the factors influence the behaviour

**Comment [RN130]:** The author is seen here interpreting from facts, how the environmental factors affect the tide associated periodic behaviour ... this right here is the author determining the nature of how the factor influences the behaviour ... gives off an examining scent

## QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **dispute (implies negative tone)** the influence of environmental factors on the tide-associated behavioral rhythms displayed by the diatom *Hantzschia virgate* ... **rather than disputing the influences, the author's seen inspecting the influences of environmental as well as biological factors ... the author determines the nature or the condition of the influence**
- B. describe how certain tide-associated behavioral rhythms displayed by the diatom *Hantzschia virgate* have changed over time ... **chronology answer ... there are no changes with respect to time discussed in the passage**
- C. compare tide-associated behavioral rhythms to solar-day behavioral rhythms in the diatom *Hantzschia virgate* ... **the passage mentions that the overall behavioural rhythm is a complex mix of the two ... the passage is not a comparison passage between the two mentioned in the answer option**

- D. examine how certain biological and environmental influences affect the tide-associated behavioral rhythms displayed by the diatom *Hantzschia virgate* ... **this is exactly what the passage does ... determines the nature or condition of how the influences (biological and environmental) affect the behavioural rhythm. CORRECT**
- E. identify certain environmental factors that limit the effectiveness of the biological clock in the diatom *Hantzschia virgate* ... **the effectiveness of the biological clock, which is a direct reference towards the clock's functionality, is never an issue in the passage ... there are never any factors that limit this functionality mentioned in the passage**

According to the passage, each of the following is characteristic of the tide-associated periodic behavior of commutator diatoms EXCEPT:

- A. It is triggered when the diatoms are inundated by the tide ... **lines 8 – 10 confirm that the burrowing in sand is triggered by what is mentioned in the option not the periodic behaviour ... the periodic rhythm in fact is not mentioned to have any sort of trigger what so ever . CORRECT**
- B. It is correlated with the rise and fall of the tide ... **mentioned in lines 5 – 8**
- C. It adjusts to changes in the tidal cycle ... **mentioned in lines 28 - 34**
- D. It is influenced by the solar-day cycle ... **inferred from lines 38 – 43**
- E. It is regulated by an innate time-keeping mechanism ... **the biological factor ... confirmed from lines 18 – 22**

Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the effect of the solar-day cycle on the tide-associated periodic behavior displayed by commutator diatoms?

- A. The solar-day cycle makes this behavior less advantageous to the commutator diatoms at certain times of the year ... **nothing of such sort is mentioned in the passage ... the specific times of the year that this option talks of are not justified by the passage**
- B. The solar-day cycle makes this behavior somewhat more erratic ... **the behaviour becoming more erratic is again something impossible to confirm from the passage**
- C. The solar-day cycle makes this behavior less important to the survival of the commutator diatoms ... **the solar day cycle is never seen or mentioned to increase the chances of survival of the diatoms more than the tide associated periodic behaviour**
- D. Because of the solar-day cycle, this behavior is forced to proceed at a more rapid pace at certain times during the 24-hour day ... **the solar day cycle is never seen to affect the rate (pace) at which the tide associated periodic rhythm is carried out ... 'rapid pace' is not justified from the context of the passage**
- E. Because of the solar-day cycle, this behavior is not expressed at certain times during the 24-hour day ... **lines 40 – 45 confirm that because of the complexity of the relationship between solar-day cycle and the tide-associated behaviour, in governing the rhythm to which the atoms conform to, sometimes the atoms do not express the behaviour even during low tides ... the above option is an appropriate paraphrase. CORRECT**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 51)

In corporate purchasing, competitive scrutiny is typically limited to suppliers of items that are directly related to end products. With “indirect” purchases (such as computers, advertising, and legal services),

Line 5 which are not directly related to production, corporations often favor “supplier partnerships” (arrangements in which the purchaser forgoes the right to pursue alternative suppliers), which **can**

**inappropriately shelter** suppliers from rigorous

Line 10 competitive scrutiny that might afford the purchaser economic leverage. There are two independent variables—availability of alternatives and ease of changing suppliers—that companies **should** use to evaluate the feasibility of subjecting suppliers of

Line 15 indirect purchases to competitive scrutiny ... *(author’s opinion)*. This can create four possible situations.

In Type 1 situations, there are many alternatives and change is relatively easy. Open pursuit of alternatives—by frequent competitive bidding, if

Line 20 possible—will likely yield the best results. In Type 2 situations, where there are many alternatives but change is difficult—as for providers of employee health-care benefits—it is important to continuously test the market and use the results to secure

Line 25 concessions from existing suppliers. Alternatives provide a credible threat to suppliers, even if the ability to switch is constrained. In Type 3 situations,

**Comment [RN131]:** mild cautionary tone → signals an opinion to come

there are few alternatives, but the ability to switch without difficulty creates a threat that companies can use to negotiate concessions from existing suppliers. In Type 4 situations, where there are few alternatives and change is difficult, partnerships may be unavoidable.

**Author:** **OPINION** (proposition by the author)

**Tone:** **NEUTRAL** (neutral overall)

The author presents his concern over the “supplier partnerships” strategy that corporations follow while making purchases of goods and services not directly related to their end product. The author then proposes an evaluation technique to gauge the feasibility of subjecting the suppliers (of indirect goods) to competitive scrutiny. The author takes up the second paragraph to discuss the application of his proposal in four types of situations

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following best describes the relation of the second paragraph to the first?

- A. The second paragraph offers proof of an assertion made in the first paragraph ... **proof implies hard / confirmed evidence ... para 2 is concerned with presenting four hypothetical situations ... para 1 consists of only facts and a proposal in the end ... no claims / assertions**
- B. The second paragraph provides an explanation for the occurrence of a situation described in the first paragraph ... **this option says one situation ... the second para clearly presents four ... moreover, the second para is a clear categorization and not an explanation of a single situation**
- C. The second paragraph discusses the application of a strategy proposed in the first paragraph ... **exactly ... the second paragraph simply discusses the application of the evaluation technique in four different situations ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- D. The second paragraph examines the scope of a problem presented in the first paragraph ... **para 1 attaches a cautionary tone to the way the thing proceed with the suppliers of indirect products ... the passage never confirms that there is a problem as such ... rather than scope of a problem ... the author sort of takes up the scope of his own proposal**
- E. The second paragraph discusses the **contradictions inherent (negative tone)** in a relationship described in the first paragraph ... **inherent contradictions is when there is a conflict between ‘what the relationship’s aimed at’ and ‘what it actually results in’ ... such a framework is nowhere close to the structure of the passage ... the second para is a simple applicability categorization of situations**

Which of the following can be inferred about supplier partnerships, as they are described in the passage?

- A. They cannot be sustained unless the goods or services provided are available from a large number of suppliers ... **partnership sustainability is not a part of the context of the passage**
- B. They can result in purchasers paying more for goods and services than they would in a competitive-bidding situation ... **lines 8 – 11 do see the author presenting his concern over how supplier partnerships can devoid the purchaser of economic leverage ... this does mean in an indirect sense that the economic leverage that the purchaser would enjoy in the case of competitive bidding would ensure that he pay less than what he would pay with no such leverage ... thus CORRECT**
- C. They typically are instituted at the urging of the supplier rather than the purchaser ... **this implies that the suppliers are more influential than are the purchasers with regard to forming the partnership ... nothing of such sort is mentioned in the passage**
- D. They are not feasible when the goods or services provided are directly related to the purchasers' end products ... **the author mentions in the beginning of the passage that 'competitive scrutiny' is limited to direct products ... however, there is no reason in the passage to believe that this limitation is because supplier partnership is not feasible in case of direct products ... it could be a century old legacy to have 'competitive scrutiny' in the case of direct products for all we know**
- E. They are **least (superlative - AVOID)** appropriate when the purchasers' ability to change suppliers is limited ... **on the contrary rather they're less appropriate than they would be, were the ability to change suppliers was not limited ... option has a 180 degree direction**

According to the passage, which of the following factors distinguishes an indirect purchase from other purchases?

- A. The ability of the purchasing company to subject potential suppliers of the purchased item to competitive scrutiny ... **the passage nowhere implies that the inability to such subjection is the reason behind labelling a purchase as direct or indirect ... the author notes a general observation that whereas direct products are purchased via competitive scrutiny the indirect ones are favoured through supplier partnership ... the option confuses an observation for a cause behind the labelling**
- B. The number of suppliers of the purchased item available to the purchasing company ... **'the number of suppliers' is part of the second paragraph while discussing the types of situations ... never does the passage imply that an indirect purchase involves more / less number of suppliers**
- C. The methods of negotiation that are available to the purchasing company ... **the methods of negotiation again are observed to be different in either case ... the observation should not be mistaken for a cause of labelling something a direct / indirect purchase**

- D. The relationship of the purchased item to the purchasing company's end product ... **exactly how the passage labels a particular purchase as direct or indirect ... confirmed via the first five lines of the passage ... CORRECT**
- E. The degree of importance of the purchased item in the purchasing company's business operations ... **the degree of importance is not a part of the passage ... with respect to the company's business operations the passage only talks of whether the purchase is directly or indirectly linked to the end product**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 52)

Seventeenth-century philosopher John Locke stated that as much as 99 percent of the value of any useful product can be attributed to "the effects of labor." For Locke's intellectual heirs it was only a short step to the

Line 5 "labor theory of value," whose formulators held that 100 percent of the value of any product is generated by labor (the human work needed to produce goods) and that therefore the employer who appropriates any part of the product's value as profit is practicing theft.

Line 10 **Although** (CONTRAST WORD) human effort is required to produce goods for the consumer market, effort is also invested in making capital goods (tools, machines, etc.), which are used to facilitate the production of consumer

Line 15 total output of consumer goods is attributable to the use of capital goods. Approximately two-thirds of the income derived from this total output is paid out to workers as wages and salaries, the remaining third serving as compensation to the owners of the capital

Line 20 goods. **Moreover** (transitional word), part of this remaining third is

**Comment [RN132]:** this point on is the author's response ... the author responds by attacking the very core of the labor theory of value which assumes a 100% attribution to labor ...

**Comment [RN133]:** furthers the authors disagreement with the labor theory of value

received by workers who are shareholders, pension beneficiaries, and the like. The labor theory of value systematically disregards the productive contribution of capital goods—a failing for which Locke must bear part of the blame.

Line 25

**Author:** OPINION (criticism by the author)

**Tone:** NEGATIVE (criticism by the author)

This passage is implied criticism only ... No suggestion.

The author takes up a particular theory, briefly tracing its origins to the opinion of philosopher John Locke. The author then responds by picking on the basis of the theory and showing the basis to be flawed. The author presents his stance (negative) by commenting on the validity of the theory by saying that the theory knowingly disregards a key element in judging the value of a produce

### QUESTIONS

According to the author (not Locke or his heirs) of the passage, which of the following is true of the distribution of the income derived from the total output of consumer goods in a modern economy?

- A. Workers receive a share of this income that is significantly (extreme as per the passage) smaller than the value of their labor as a contribution to total output ... this is what the proponents of the 'labor theory of value' may be seen as doing, however, the author is more likely the opposite of this ... in any case this option is not implied from the context of the passage
- B. Owners of capital goods receive a share of this income that is significantly greater than the contribution to total output attributable to the use of capital goods ... again the author simply mentions statistics and implicitly agrees to how representative they might be of the actual value attributable to various elements ... the author is never seen to make or imply anything close to this option
- C. Owners of capital goods receive a share of this income that is no greater than the proportion of total output attributable to the use of capital goods ... lines 20 – 22 confirm that even out of the  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> share that the owners receive, part of it is paid off as pension, benefits etc ... this implies that owners themselves are never left with more than  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> of the total income ... and  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> is the proportion attributable to capital goods ... CORRECT
- D. Owners of capital goods are not fully compensated for their investment because they pay out most of their share of this income to workers as wages and benefits ... the option clearly mixes up the facts ... whether the owners are fully compensated with regard to their investment (i.e. they get back each penny of what they had put in) is not a part of the passage ... moreover, the passage says that  $\frac{2}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> of the income is

**Comment [RN134]:** After presenting statistics that bring out the flaw in the very assumption of the labor value theory, the author presents his own judgemental stance or his criticism of the theory ... according to the author the theory disregards a key participant in judging the final value of a good ... and hence the theory judges falsely what the value may be attributed to ... this is a CRITICISM ... systematic disregard implies intentional disregard ... another confirmation of criticism

paid out to workers ... this  $\frac{2}{3}^{\text{rd}}$  is never a part of the owner's share. The owner's share's only  $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ .

- E. Workers receive a share of this income that is greater than the value of their labor because the labor theory of value overestimates their contribution to total output ... the author is likely to agree to the overestimation ... but nowhere does the passage imply that workers are being paid in accordance to the theory, whether the theory forms the doctrine behind the payment structure of the workers

The author of the passage is primarily concerned with

- A. criticizing Locke's economic theories ... the passage doesn't have any theory from Locke ... forget theories ... all the passage shares is Locke's opinion regarding the percentage of output value attributable to labor
- B. discounting the contribution of labor in a modern economy ... notice how the word contribution here is absolute in its sense ... and the passage deals with the proportion of the income derived from the final produce that may be attributed to the labor efforts ... the passage simply says that a theory that says that there is only one player to whom the entire credit should be due is actually wrong for there are two players (labor and capital goods themselves) among which the entire credit should be distributed
- C. questioning the validity of the labor theory of value ... by questioning the very basis of the theory and showing through statistics that the theory leaves out intentionally a key member including which the value of the final produce must be distributed, the validity of the theory is indeed challenged by the author ... CORRECT
- D. arguing for (implies persuasive/positive tone) a more equitable distribution of business profits ... the passage is not a persuasion passage
- E. contending that employers are overcompensated for capital goods ... this is something the proponents of the "labor theory value" might be on the same page with ... they view profits equivalent to thefts

Which of the following arguments would a proponent of the labor theory of value, as it is presented in the first paragraph, be most likely to use in response to the statement that "The labor theory of value systematically disregards the productive contribution of capital goods"?

- A. The productive contributions of workers and capital goods cannot be compared because the productive life span of capital goods is longer than that of workers ... the proponents are never seen to be concerned with comparing the life span of the capital goods and the workers ... it is not inferable from the passage that the life span is the reason they intentionally leave out the productive contribution of capital goods
- B. The author's analysis of the distribution of income is misleading because only a small percentage of workers are also shareholders ... even if only a small percentage of workers are shareholders ... this has no bearing on the fact that the distribution should not contain the productive contribution of capital goods ... this response is not even remotely relevant



- C. Capital goods are valuable only insofar as they contribute directly to the production of consumer goods ... **there is no reason to believe from the context of the passage that the capital goods discussed here do not contribute directly to the production of consumer goods ... irrelevant response to why they've left out capital goods knowingly**
- D. The productive contribution of capital goods must be discounted because capital goods require maintenance ... **the passage never implies that maintenance is a reason that capital goods cannot fare as a productive contribution to the overall output value ... this is again an irrelevant response to why the contribution is knowingly left out**
- E. The productive contribution of capital goods must be attributed to labor because capital goods are themselves products of labor ... **perfect ... this response dodges the author's criticism by saying that the theory disregards capital goods' contribution because counting them would mean you're re-counting the contribution of the labor that produced them ... re-counting something that has already been accounted for when counting the labor contribution alone ... the response stands as a strong defense ... thus CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 53)

In her account of unmarried women's experiences in colonial Philadelphia, Wulf argues that educated young women, particularly Quakers, engaged in resistance to patriarchal marriage by exchanging poetry critical of marriage, copying verse into their commonplace books. Wulf suggests that this critique circulated beyond the daughters of the Quaker elite and middle class, whose commonplace books she mines, proposing that Quaker schools brought it to many poor female students of diverse backgrounds.

Here Wulf probably overstates Quaker schools' impact.

At least three years' study would be necessary to achieve the literacy competence necessary to grapple with the material she analyzes. In 1765, the year Wulf

**Comment [RN135]:** Tone of disagreement with the opinion of wulf ... signals an opinion by the author to come ... this in itself can also be called a mild opinion ... the entire remaining of the passage is used up by the author to present evidence or his interpretation of the data in order to persuade one to feel what the author feels about the overstatement ... in short the author presents his argument in this passage

Line 15 uses to demonstrate the diversity of Philadelphia's Quaker schools, 128 students enrolled in these schools. Refining Wulf's numbers by the information she provides on religious affiliation, gender, and length of study, it appears that only about 17 poor non-

Line 20 Quaker girls were educated in Philadelphia's Quaker schools for three years or longer. While Wulf is correct that a critique of patriarchal marriage circulated broadly, Quaker schools probably cannot be credited with instilling these ideas in the lower classes. Popular literary satires on marriage had already landed on fertile ground in a multiethnic population that embodied a wide range of marital beliefs and practices. These ethnic- and class-based traditions themselves challenged the legitimacy of patriarchal marriage.

**Author:** OPINION (the passage is seen to be persuasive in nature)

**Tone:** NEGATIVE

There is disagreement on part of the author with an aspect of the study. The author contends that wulf's account misrepresents the way the resistance was spread amongst the women from the poorer section of the society

The author takes up an account of a particular researcher regarding the circulation of material critiquing patriarchal marriage. The author picks on a particular aspect of the account – that Quaker schools were responsible for the circulation among the young women from the poorer section of the society – and presents evidence to have the reader believe that the credit is due elsewhere ... persuasion passage.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. argue against one aspect of Wulf's account of how ideas critical of marriage were disseminated among young women in colonial Philadelphia ... this is exactly the issue that is mainly taken up by the author in the passage ... the author contends that the Quaker schools were responsible for spreading the critique among the poor female students ... CORRECT

**Comment [RN136]:** This is the opinion of the author ... this is the only portion of the study done by wulf that the author differ's in opinion ... to differ from wulf's opinion, the author must hold his own opinion and this is that opinion ...

- B. **discuss (implies no opinion)** Wulf's interpretation of the significance for educated young women in colonial Philadelphia of the poetry they copied into their commonplace books ... **the passage simply mentions that poetry was one of the means by which ideas critical of the patriarchal marriage were circulated among the young women ... there is no interpretation with links to the significance of this means**
- C. counter Wulf's assertions about the impact of the multiethnic character of colonial Philadelphia's population on the prevalent views about marriage ... **the only thing the author's seen countering / disagreeing with is that Quaker schools helped spread the critical ideas against patriarchal marriage among the several poor young women ... Wulf is not even seen to make any assertion(s) whatsoever on how the multi-ethnic character helped bring about the critical views about marriage**
- D. **present data (implies no opinion for a passage with an opinion)** to undermine Wulf's assessment of the diversity of the student body in Quaker schools in colonial Philadelphia ... **the assessment of the diversity is never doubted or shown to be inaccurate ... instead it is that very assessment that the author uses as evidence for his argument**
- E. challenge Wulf's conclusion that a critique of marriage was prevalent among young women of all social classes in colonial Philadelphia ... **slightly off the point here ... the author accepts that there was a critique of marriage prevalent among young women ... the author just disagrees on the means by which the critique was spread among them**

**According to the passage, which of the following was true of attitudes toward marriage in colonial Philadelphia?**

- A. Exemplars of a critique of marriage could be found in various literary forms, but they did not impact public attitudes except among educated young women ... **the passage clearly suggests in line 6 – 10 that the critique impacted all sections of the society including the educated who exchanged the ideas in forms of poetry ... 'various literary forms' is not confirmed from the passage as the only literary form in the passage is poems**
- B. The diversity of the student body in the Quaker schools meant that attitudes toward marriage were more disparate there than elsewhere in Philadelphia society ... **there is never a link drawn between the diversity and how disparate the ideas were ... the Quaker schools are never compared with the rest of Philadelphia with regard to the dissimilarity concerning marriage ideas**
- C. Although critical attitudes toward marriage were widespread, Quaker schools' influence in disseminating these attitudes was limited ... **this is exactly what the author is contending saying that the influence of the Quaker schools in disseminating these attitudes is overestimated and was limited to just the elite and middle class young females ... CORRECT**
- D. Criticisms of marriage in colonial Philadelphia were directed at only certain limited aspects of patriarchal marriage ... **nothing of such sort is mentioned in the passage ... aspects of the patriarchal marriage that were subjected to criticisms is not a part of the passage**

- E. The influence of the wide range of marital beliefs and practices present in Philadelphia's multiethnic population can be detected in the poetry that educated young women copied in their commonplace books ... **marital beliefs and practices are not a part of the passage ... the passage implies no such detection in the poetry ... the poetry is said to be critical of the patriarchal structure of marriage at the time ... that's it**

**The author of the passage implies which of the following about the poetry mentioned in the first paragraph?**

- A. Wulf exaggerates the degree to which young women from an elite background regarded the poetry as providing a critique of marriage ... **the only thing the author disagrees with is the influence of Quaker schools in dissemination of the attitudes prevalent ... elite background women's regard for poetry in any sense is not part of the passage**
- B. The circulation of the poetry was confined to young Quaker women ... **lines 6 – 10 confirm that the critique (assuming the same as the poetry) was not limited to the Quaker school daughters ... moreover, we're not sure from the context of the passage that the poetry did not go beyond the walls of the Quaker schools ... just by saying that the critique was exchanged among Quaker women doesn't imply that it was confined there**
- C. Young women copied the poetry into their commonplace books because they interpreted it as providing a desirable model of unmarried life ... **the passage mentions that the Quaker women copied the verses as part of their engagement with the resistance ... however, the passage never provides one of a reason as to why they did so ... a desirable model of unmarried life is not confirmed from the passage ... the women were against the patriarchal structure doesn't mean they desired to stay single**
- D. The poetry's capacity to influence popular attitudes was restricted by the degree of literacy necessary to comprehend it ... **lines 12 – 14 confirm this option word by word ... this is a reason as to why the author feels that the source of dissemination of the attitudes towards marriage among the poorer females was not the literature available at Quaker schools ... CORRECT**
- E. The poetry celebrated marital beliefs and practices that were in opposition to patriarchal marriage ... **the content of the poetry as such is not a part of the passage ... marital beliefs and practices are also not discussed in the passage**

**Which of the following, if true, would most seriously undermine the author's basis (the degree of literacy required for understanding the critique was not met by the poor female students) for saying that Wulf overstates Quaker schools' impact?**

- A. The information that Wulf herself provided on religious affiliation and gender of students is in fact accurate ... **this option is irrelevant ... the accuracy of the facts are in any case never doubted or contended in the passage ... the option does attack the degree of literacy required**
- B. Most poor, non-Quaker students enrolled in Quaker schools had completed one or two years' formal or informal schooling before enrolling ... **this option implies that a lot**

more than 17 female students could have completed three or more years of study and hence were in a position to comprehend and be influenced by the commonplace books ... this implies that the Quaker schools influence is indeed accurately estimated ... weakens the argument ... thus, CORRECT

- C. Not all of the young women whose commonplace books contained copies of poetry critical of marriage were Quakers ... even if there was one young woman who wasn't a Quaker and shared the literature, it does not prove that the poor were also benefited from the literature circulated at Quaker
- D. The poetry featured in young women's commonplace books frequently included allusions that were unlikely to be accessible to someone with only three years' study in school ... this if anything slightly strengthens the argument saying that the source of dissemination among the poor female students was something else
- E. In 1765 an unusually large proportion of the Quaker schools' student body consisted of poor girls from non-Quaker backgrounds ... the composition is irrelevant so far as the degree of their literacy remains unknown ... are they to all have less than three years of the required literacy ... the option is useless

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 54)

Extensive research has shown that the effects of short-term price promotions on sales are themselves short-term. Companies' hopes that promotions might have a positive aftereffect have not been borne out for reasons that researchers have been able to identify. A price promotion entices only a brand's long-term or "loyal" customers; people seldom buy an unfamiliar brand merely because the price is reduced. They simply avoid paying more than they have to when one of their customary brands is temporarily available at a reduced price. A price promotion does not increase the number of long-term customers of a brand, as it attracts virtually no new customers in the first place. Nor do price promotions have lingering aftereffects for

Line 15 a brand, even negative ones such as damage to a brand's reputation or erosion of customer loyalty, as is often feared.

So **why** do companies spend so much on price promotions? Clearly price promotions are generally run

Line 20 at a loss, otherwise there would be more of them. And the bigger the increase in sales at promotion prices, the bigger the loss. While short-term price promotions can have legitimate uses, such as reducing excess inventory, it is the recognizable increase in sales that

Line 25 is their main attraction to management, which is therefore reluctant to abandon this strategy despite its effect on the bottom line.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author takes up the strategy of short-term price promotions and explains the effects as a result of following that particular strategy. The effects are portrayed as reasons for the company's hopes not having been borne out. The author then explains the main reason why the strategy is followed.

The passage is a pure explanation passage ...

QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. compare the arguments in favor of a certain strategy with those against it ... **arguments in favour and those against implies that the passage comprises the opinion of at least two groups ... the passage has none; it is a no opinion passage ... the structure of the passage is nowhere near a comparison one**
- B. **attack (a bit extreme and strongly negative in tone)** a certain strategy by enumerating its negative consequences ... **attack implies the author explicitly and openly criticizing the strategy ... the author is simply citing a research ... the author simply discusses the consequences of the strategy, that is the effect it has on the perception of the buyers as such ... there is no hint in the passage that these consequences are negative, as in damaging the image of the brand ... the consequences (para 1) if one were to call them that are absolutely neutral in nature**

**Comment [RN137]:** The para addresses the reason behind still following the strategy of which the negative effects are mentioned in the previous para ...



- C. **justify (strongly positive tone)** the use of a certain strategy in light of certain criticisms that have been made against it ... **certain criticism implies a third person's opinion or belief ... there is none ... justify implies the author's opinion ... there is none**
- D. **advocate (strongly positive tone)** a particular strategy by arguing against an alternative ... **there is just one strategy presented in the passage ... there is no alternative strategy in the passage ... moreover, the passage is a no opinion passage**
- E. explain the effects of a certain strategy and the primary motivations for adopting it ... **the answer option encompasses the function of both the paragraphs of the passage ... one explains the effects, the other the motivations ... CORRECT. The word primary is verified from line 25 of the passage where it says 'main attraction'**

According to the passage, which of the following is the reason why short-term price promotions do not attract new long-term customers to a brand?

- A. Short-term price promotions do not produce an increase in sales ... **this option inverts the cause and effect relationship that might possibly be inferable from the passage ... because short-term price promotions do not attract new long-term customers, there is no increase in sales observed ... not the other way around as the option implies**
- B. Customers come to regard the promotional price as the fair price and the regular price as excessive ... **customers regard for either the promotional price or the regular price, i.e. what they feel about the price of a commodity, is not a part of the passage at all**
- C. **Most (superlative - AVOID)** customers select among competing products largely on the basis of price and very few are loyal to any particular brand ... **had this been true, the strategy talked of in the passage would definitely see a boost in sales at least in the short-term ... however, no such effect is confirmed from the passage context**
- D. Customers who have not previously bought the promoted brand are almost never persuaded to do so by the short-term price promotions ... **this is exactly what lines 5 – 8 of the passage confirm ... CORRECT ... the term 'almost never' is verified by the term 'people seldom buy' in line 7 of the passage**
- E. Any customers that a brand gains by means of a short-term price promotion are liable to be lost when a competing brand has a similar promotion ... **this option implies that customers are price sensitive ... however, lines 5 – 8 of the passage confirm that a customer is rarely likely to switch over to a different / unknown brand for the sole reason that its price has been reduced ... 180 degrees answer**

The passage suggests that evidence for price promotions' "effect on the bottom line" (the effect being that they have the companies incur losses – lines 19 – 20) is provided by

- A. the lack of lingering aftereffects from price promotions ... **this being a location based question ... lingering aftereffects is something that is a part of para 1 ... as per the passage lack of lingering can best explain the fact that the strategy does not have its intended effect ... however, it cannot explain the losses incurred**
- B. the frequency with which price promotions occur ... **lines 19 – 22 confirm that the lesser frequency implies the strategy has the company incurring losses ... and the word 'despite' just before the phrase 'effect on the bottom line' allows one to glean**

from the context that the phrase refers to the negative effect mentioned earlier in the paragraph which is 'running at a loss' ... thus CORRECT

- C. price promotions' inability to attract new customers ... part of para 1 again ... the concerned piece is a part of para 2 ... again as per the passage this inability only proves that the strategy did not have its intended effects ... not why the company instituting the strategy suffered loss
- D. price promotions' recognizable effect on sales ... recognizable effects is something that might be inferred as working in the positive direction for the companies employing the strategy, however, the 'effect on the bottom line' is something that works in the negative direction for the company ... one cannot thus be the evidence of the other
- E. the legitimate uses to which management can put price promotions ... again the legitimate uses are something that go in the benefitting direction whereas the 'effect on the bottom line' goes in the opposite direction ... there is no way that one can be the evidence of the other

It can be inferred from the passage that if a company ceased to run short-term price promotions for a particular product, an effect of this change would be to

- A. reduce excess inventory of the product ... this is explicitly mentioned to be legitimate use / benefit of the price promotion ... 180 degrees answer
- B. lose some of the product's long-term customers ... Although lines 5 – 7 would have a reader agree to the fact that price promotions do only capture the attention of the long-term customers, there is no evidence to believe that such customers are loyal only because the company offers such promotions
- C. reduce the product's overall sales ... the overall sales is a measure of long-term as well as short-term sales ... the passage does mention in the beginning that the strategy does have short-term effects namely in the form of increased sales, however, argues that this increase in sales is dubious (considering the goal with which the strategy is employed) as the only people buying more is the ones already hooked onto the brand ... thus were such promotions to cease, there would be a fall in the overall sales at least ... CORRECT
- D. inhibit growth in the number of the product's customers ... the passage mentions that such strategies have no effect on the number of customers ... the growth in the number of customers as per the passage can best be seen as irrelevant of such strategies
- E. threaten the product's profitability ... nowhere does the passage imply that short-term price promotions are responsible for securing the product's profitability ... profitability which is proportion of the revenue that comprises profits is not even mentioned in the passage

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 55)

The experience of British business in Iran between the 1860's and the 1970's is one example of the changing importance of British enterprise in Asia as a whole.

Before 1914 British business established and

Line 5 dominated Iran's modern industrial and financial sector; in the 1920's this domination began to wane; by the 1960's British enterprise was of little importance in the Iranian economy. While in Japan and India the decline of British business was primarily a function of

Line 10 the rise of strong indigenous business groups, in Iran, by contrast, the government played a large role in both challenging British commercial interests and stimulating locally owned enterprise. Periodic surges of intense Iranian economic nationalism must be

Line 15 understood partly as a reaction to the close relations between British business in Iran and the British government. In retrospect, it is possible to see the uneasy and ambiguous nature of this relationship. It is true that the British Imperial Bank in Iran was never

Line 20 entirely a tool of the British government, and that the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company did not take its orders from the British government, despite the 51 percent government shareholding. However, the relationship between British business and the British government

Line 25 was sufficiently close that many Iranians understandably viewed the oil company and the bank as symbols of a British imperialist policy.

**Comment [RN138]:** The author provides reason for the historical observation mentioned above ...

**Comment [RN139]:** Should not be confused for introducing an opinion ... the word must can always be used for stating facts ... e.g. the cake batter must be free of any air bubbles before being placed in the oven ... only where the usage of 'must' is prescriptive in nature or where its usage is synonymous to the usage of the word 'ought' should it be considered introducing an opinion by the author

**Comment [RN140]:** The author provides reason for the historical observation mentioned above ...

**Comment [RN141]:** The author provides reason for the historical observation mentioned above ...

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author describes a historical observation by taking a particular example ... the author then delves into explaining the reasons leading to that change

The passage is a pure explanation passage ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. **evaluate (implies balanced tone)** a country's solution to a problem ... **the passage mentions a historic event ... there is no mention of either a problem or any solution ... the reasons behind the change can in no manner be inferred as Iran's solution**
- B. describe differing perceptions of a historical event ... **perception(s) implies the opinion of at least two parties ... the passage has no opinion**
- C. contrast historical events in two countries ... **the historical event taken up in the passage is only regarding one country – Iran**
- D. provide an explanation for a historical phenomenon ... **'explanation for' implies reasons ... this is exactly what the passage is concerned with ... CORRECT**
- E. **challenge (implies opinion and negative tone)** an accepted explanation for a historical change ... **the word accepted is not confirmed from the context of the passage**

The passage suggests which of the following about British business in Japan and India as compared to British business in Iran?

- A. British business in Japan and India received less support from the British government than did British business in Iran ... **there is no comment in the passage on the relative involvement of the British government in British businesses in the countries mentioned in the option**
- B. During the early twentieth century, British business played less of a role in the Japanese and Indian economy than it did in the Iranian economy ... **the economies of India and Japan are not part of the passage ... there is no relative comparison of how involved the British businesses were in the countries mentioned in the option**
- C. The governments of Japan and India played less of a role in the changing status of British business than did the government of Iran ... **lines 8 – 13 are an exact paraphrase of this option ... each word confirmed ... CORRECT ... it is only the role the governments of the mentioned countries played in bringing about the change that the passage talks about that is talked of in the passage and nothing else**
- D. The types of enterprises conducted by the British in Japan and India were significantly different from the enterprises conducted by the British in Iran ... **not even a single type of enterprise conducted by the British in India or in Japan is mentioned in the passage ... forget types**
- E. British business in Japan and India declined more gradually than did British business in Iran ... **there is never any comparison of the pace of decline of the businesses in the countries mentioned in the option**

The author of the passage mentions the British government's shares in the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company most probably in order to (purpose question)

- A. demonstrate the British enterprise in Iran was controlled by the British government ... **the author mentions that this is what was perceived by the Iranian people but was not the case in reality ... the British government had little control ... 180 degrees**
- B. contrast British-run businesses in Iran with Iranian-run businesses in Iran ... **such a contrast is never made ... Iranian-run businesses are not mentioned in the passage**
- C. show how joint British and Iranian enterprises were encouraged by the British government ... **the British government is never seen to be encouraging any joint efforts**
- D. illustrate a point about the financial difficulties faced by British businesses in Asia ... **financial difficulties implies monetary problems which are never a part of the context of the passage**
- E. suggest a reason for Iranians' perception of the role British government played in British business ... **this is exactly what the passage does lines 20 beyond ... although the number of shares still had the British business shielded from taking orders by the British government, the passage mentions that this was one of the reasons the Iranians viewed the relationship as symbolic of the British Imperialist policy. CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 56)

More selective than most chemical pesticides in that they ordinarily destroy only unwanted species, biocontrol agents (such as insects, fungi, and viruses) eat, infect, or parasitize targeted plant or animal pests.

Line 5 **However (CONTRAST WORD),** biocontrol agents can negatively affect

nontarget species by, **for example**, competing with them for resources: a biocontrol agent might reduce the benefits conferred by a desirable animal species by consuming a plant on which the animal prefers to lay

Line 10 its eggs. **Another example** of indirect negative consequences occurred in England when a virus introduced to control rabbits reduced the amount of

**Comment [RN142]:** The author presents here a cautionary tone towards the use of seemingly more beneficial (in that they're more selective in nature) biocontrol agents ... through the contrast word and the 'for example' bold faced we realize in the very beginning what the author is going to take up for discussion in the passage ...

open ground (because large rabbit populations reduce the ground cover), in turn reducing underground ant

Line 15 nests and triggering the extinction of a blue butterfly that had depended on the nests to shelter its offspring. The paucity of known extinctions or disruptions resulting from indirect interactions may reflect not the infrequency of such mishaps but rather

Line 20 the failure to look for or to detect them (... author's opinion): most organisms likely to be adversely affected by indirect interactions are of little or no known commercial value and the events linking a biocontrol agent with an adverse effect are often unclear. Moreover (transitional word),

Line 25 determining the potential risks of biocontrol agents before they are used is difficult, especially when a nonnative agent is introduced, because, unlike a chemical pesticide, a biocontrol agent may adapt in unpredictable ways so that it can feed on or otherwise

Line 30 harm new hosts.

**Author: OPINION** (more persuasive in nature)

The author presents his concern first, shares with us his scepticism (his opinion) and then presents a bucket full of evidence / premise to have one convinced or to back his concern ... this is a clear case of persuasion via presenting an argument

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

Note, however, that the author at no point criticises the agents ... only presents his concern and tries to warn us from welcoming the use of the agents with open arms

The author introduces the more selective bio-control agents and cautions us of some of the possibly negative effects that these agents might have. The author then asserts that just because known extinctions are not recorded doesn't mean that they're safe but rather that the risks are not easily recognizable. He backs his claim with his account of things

**Comment [RN143]:** Note the suggestive tone put forth by the author ... the author exclusively FEELS that just because there are no records of known extinctions (paucity) doesn't mean that the agents are free of danger ... this is like someone being apprehensive about an idea ... that apprehension has to be limited to that person alone and hence becomes his belief / feeling / OPINION

**Comment [RN144]:** The author is seen furthering evidence to support his own stance ... as if trying to convince the reader to share his view



### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. **explaining (implies a no opinion passage)** why until recently scientists failed to recognize the risks presented by biocontrol agents ... **firstly there is no mention of any scientists in the passage ... the why in the answer option implies that the passage is more on the lines of discussing the techniques used by scientists if any and explaining where they faltered**
- B. emphasizing that biocontrol agents and chemical pesticides have more similarities than differences ... **they only difference anywhere in the passage is in the first line where the author calls the agents more selective ... there is no similarity at all in the passage ... most importantly the passage is never about relatively counting the similarities and differences**
- C. suggesting that only certain biocontrol agents should be used to control plant or animal pests ... **the passage makes no such suggestion ... the author never singles out any agents that he might have an issue with ... his concern is directed towards all the agents as per the passage**
- D. arguing that biocontrol agents involve **risks (portrays the cautionary tone)**, some of which may not be readily discerned ... **subtly put ... this is what the author is seen doing in the passage ... presenting his argument to convince the reader that the paucity reflects the failure to look for or to detect the mishaps and hence the risks involved ... CORRECT**
- E. suggesting that mishaps involving biocontrol agents are relatively commonplace ... **the word commonplace gives this answer away as the wrong option ... the author does imply (in line 19) that one might underestimate the frequency by looking at only the known records of such extinctions ... however, this does NOT mean that the other extreme is true – i.e. the frequency is so high that the mishaps are commonplace**

The passage suggests that the author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about the use of biocontrol agents (against which the author has a sceptic attitude)?

- A. Biocontrol agent should be used **only (slightly extreme – AVOID)** in cases where chemical pesticides have proven ineffective or overly dangerous ... **although the author does present his concern over the use of the agents ... the passage has nothing to prove that he favours the pesticides over the agents**
- B. Extinctions and disruptions resulting from the use of biocontrol agents are likely to have increasingly **severe (a bit extreme)** commercial consequences ... **lines 20 – 24 confirm that one reason why the risks of using agents are not readily discernible is that the consequences are of little commercial value ... 180 degrees answer**
- C. The use of biocontrol agents does not require regulation as stringent as that required by the use of chemical pesticides ... **usage regulations are never a part of the passage**
- D. The use of biocontrol agents may even finally supersede the use of chemical pesticides in controlling unwanted species ... **no sort of prediction (by the author) regarding the scope of usage of either the pesticides or the agents is implied from the passage**

- E. The risks of using native biocontrol agents may be easier to predict than the risks of using nonnative biocontrol agents ... **lines 24 (specifically the phrase ‘especially when a non-native agent is introduced’) onwards confirm that the non-native agents pose a greater challenge when it comes to risk prediction as compared to native agents ... thus inferable ... CORRECT**

**Which of the following is mentioned in the passage as an indirect effect of using a biocontrol agent?**

- A. Reduction of the commercial value of a desirable animal species ... **reduction in commercial value is not an effect in the passage but a supposed cause for the infrequency of reported mishaps via the use of agents**
- B. An unintended proliferation of a nontarget animal species ... **the passage talks of a reduction in the numbers of the nontarget animal species as an indirect effect but never an increase in the numbers of any non-target species**
- C. An unforeseen mutation in a target species ... **there is never any sort of mutation mentioned in the passage**
- D. Diminution of the positive effects conferred by a nontarget animal species ... **diminution implies ‘lessening’ ... lines 6 – 10 confirm this option word by word. CORRECT**
- E. Competition for resources with a **largest (superlative – AVOID)** species ... **this, even after avoiding the superlative usage, is more of a direct effect as per the passage ... we’re looking for an indirect one**

**The example presented by the author in the highlighted text most clearly serves to illustrate**

- A. a situation in which a species is less vulnerable to biocontrol agents than it would have been to chemical pesticides ... **the author is never comparing the effects of bio control agents with those of pesticides in the passage**
- B. a way in which the introduction of a biocontrol agent can affect a nontarget species ... **this is exactly what the example is doing ... the virus indirectly affecting the blue butterfly ... CORRECT**
- C. a nonnative agent’s adapting in an unpredictable way that results in damage to a new host ... **a non-native agents adaptation as a concept is introduced much later in the passage and is not exemplified**
- D. The contention that biocontrol agents can harm nontarget species by competing with them for resources ... **read the option carefully ... if the agents were to compete with the non-target species for resources ... this is a much more DIRECT effect than the one that the example shares ... reading the example again assures us that it is not a case of effect through resource sharing**
- E. the way in which indirect consequences from the use of biocontrol agents are **most (superlative – AVOID)** likely to occur ... **the author’s exemplifying indirect consequences in general not the one with the highest likelihood**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 57)

Is it possible to decrease inflation without causing a recession and its concomitant increase in unemployment? The orthodox answer is “no.” Whether they support the “inertia” theory of inflation (that

Line 5 today’s inflation rate is caused by yesterday’s inflation, the state of the economic cycle, and external influences such as import prices) or the “rational expectations” theory (that inflation is caused by

workers’ and employers’ expectations, coupled with a

Line 10 lack of credible monetary and fiscal policies), **most**

economists agree that tight monetary and fiscal policies, which cause recessions, are necessary to decelerate inflation. They point out that in the 1980’s, many European countries and the United States

Line 15 conquered high (by these countries’ standards) inflation, but only by applying tight monetary and fiscal policies that sharply increased unemployment.

**Nevertheless (CONTRAST WORD)**, some governments’ policymakers insist

that direct controls on wages and prices, without tight

Line 20 monetary and fiscal policies, can succeed in decreasing inflation. **Unfortunately**, because this approach fails to

deal with the underlying causes of inflation, wage and price controls eventually collapse, the hitherto-repressed inflation resurfaces, and in the meantime,

Line 25 though the policymakers succeed in avoiding a recession, a frozen structure of relative prices imposes distortions that do damage to the economy’s prospects

**Comment [RN145]:** Indicates how widely held the above viewpoint is ...

**Comment [RN146]:** Notice how after describing the most economists’ position and the reason they hold such thought, the author by the use of a contrast word here brings up a few who might feel otherwise ... note that the author brings this in to check the concreteness of the viewpoint introduced above ... this thereby gives off a scent of inspection in the passage ...

**Comment [RN147]:** Please note that this need not always introduce an opinion or a negative tone ... the author isn’t saddened by what he has to say post this word ... the author simply states a neutral fact with no emotions

for long-term growth.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage takes up a widely held opinion (among most economists). He then inspects the viewpoint from the angle of what a few other economists believe. The contention of the few economists is later shown to pose no challenge at all to the orthodox position.

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that the high inflation in the United States and many European countries (lines 13 – 16) in the 1980's differed from inflation elsewhere in which of the following ways?

- A. It fit the rational expectations theory of inflation but not the inertia theory of inflation ... there is never any comment on whether it fits any theory ... neither is there enough information on the recession to deduce which theory it would fit more, if any
- B. It was possible to control without causing a recession ... there is no example in the passage of an inflation that was possible to control while avoiding recession ... lines 13 – 16 strictly say that it was controlled only by applying tight policies which do inadvertently lead to inflation
- C. It was easier to control in those countries by applying tight monetary and fiscal policies than it would have been elsewhere ... the passage makes no comment on the degree of difficulty one would have to face, were he to control it in those countries or anywhere else ... unwarranted comparison ... this is typical of a mathematical answer
- D. It was not caused by workers' and employers' expectations ... the cause of the inflation is not part of the location of the passage concerned or of the passage itself
- E. It would not necessarily be considered high elsewhere ... have a look at the phrase placed in parenthesis in line 15 ... the phrase restricts the measure of degree to those countries' standards only ... implying that other places might not have considered it as high ... thus inferable. CORRECT

Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen The author's conclusion (wage and price controls eventually collapse, inflation resurfaces and long-term growth prospects are damaged) about the use of wage and price controls?

- A. Countries that repeatedly use wage and price controls tend to have lower long-term economic growth rates than do other countries ... this option addresses on of the aspects of the author's conclusion ... the long term growth of the economy ... this option presents evidence in accordance with what the author claims about the use of price and wage controls as a means to control inflation ... CORRECT
- B. Countries that have extremely high inflation frequently place very stringent controls on wages and prices in an attempt to decrease the inflation ... this if anything implies that wage and price controls are a preferred (and thus maybe viable) solution to controlling inflation ... this goes against what the author is trying to conclude ... thus sort of weakens his stance instead of strengthening

- C. Some countries have found that the use of wage and price controls succeeds in decreasing inflation but also causes a recession ... **the author is not trying to conclude that wage and price controls are similar, in the response they produce that is, to tight monetary and fiscal policies ... the author's concluding that the wage and price controls do not end up controlling inflation in the long run to begin with ... this option too partially weakens the author's stance**
- D. Policymakers who advocate the use of wage and price controls believe that these controls will deal with the underlying causes of inflation ... **the belief of policy makers is irrelevant to the argument whether wage and price controls actually end up harming the economy**
- E. Policymakers who advocate the use of wage and price controls are usually more concerned about long-term economic goals than about short-term economic goals ... **the author's contention with price and wage controls in his argument is not against policymakers and their intentions but against the result they actually yield for an economy**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. apply two conventional theories ... **the theories mentioned in the passage represent two different groups of economists ... there is no application – i.e. showing how an economy fits the model of a particular theory**
- B. examine a generally accepted position ... **perfect match ... he takes up a generally accepted stance and checks it out or inspects it ... CORRECT**
- C. **support (implies positive tone)** a controversial policy ... **no theory in the passage is associated with any sort of controversy ... the use of the word 'controversial' is unwarranted**
- D. explain the underlying causes of a phenomenon ... **firstly a phenomenon is an observed occurrence as in an event ... the passage is concerned with a viewpoint and not any phenomenon ... there are no reasons explained for anything in the passage**
- E. **propose (implies opinion)** an innovative solution ... **there is no solution that the author brings up from his side ... forget a novel one**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 58)

In most earthquakes the Earth's crust cracks like porcelain. Stress builds up until a fracture forms at a depth of a few kilometers and the crust slips to relieve the stress. Some earthquakes, **however** (CONTRAST WORD), take place

**Comment [RN148]:** Note how the contrast word in the very beginning sets us right in the direction of what the rest of the passage is going to be talking about ... the first 9 lines of the passage coupled with this contrast word tell us that the author is interested in taking up the not so common earthquakes

Line 5 hundreds of kilometers down in the Earth's mantle, where high pressure makes rock so ductile that it flows instead of cracking, even under stress severe enough to deform it like putty. How can there be earthquakes at such depths?

Line 10 That such deep events do occur has been accepted only since 1927, when the seismologist Kiyoo Wadati convincingly demonstrated their existence. Instead of comparing the arrival times of seismic waves at different locations, as earlier researchers had done.

Line 15 Wadati relied on a time difference between the arrival of primary (P) waves and the slower secondary (S) waves. Because P and S waves travel at different but fairly constant speeds, the interval between their arrivals increases in proportion to the distance from the earthquake focus, or rupture point.

Line 20 For **most (shallow events)** earthquakes, Wadati discovered, the interval was quite short near the epicenter, the point on the surface where shaking is strongest. For a **few (deep)** events, however, the delay was long even at the epicenter.

Line 25 Wadati saw a similar pattern when he analyzed data on the intensity of shaking. **Most (shallow)** earthquakes had a small area of intense shaking, which weakened rapidly with increasing distance from the epicenter, but **others (deep events)** were characterized by a lower peak intensity, felt over

Line 30 a broader area. Both the P-S intervals and the intensity patterns suggested two kinds of earthquakes: the more common shallow events, in which the focus lay just under the epicenter, and deep events, with a

**Comment [RN149]:** The sentence links the observations presented above with what they infer → the presence of deep events ... this paragraph thus functions as evidence for the existence of deep events ...



focus several hundred kilometers down.

Line 35 The question remained: how can such quakes occur, given that mantle rock at a depth of more than 50 kilometers is too ductile to store enough stress to fracture? Wadati's work suggested that deep events occur in areas (now called Wadati-Benioff zones)

Line 40 where one crustal plate is forced under another and descends into the mantle. The descending rock is substantially cooler than the surrounding mantle and hence is less ductile and much more liable to fracture.

**Comment [RN150]:** Introduces the conditions that favour the occurrence or the onset of deep originating earthquakes ...

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage is a purely factual discussion passage ...

The organization of the passage (paragraph wise) may be laid out as follows ...

**PARA 1** ... steers us in the direction of deep occurring earthquakes. The question in the last sentence confirms that it is the not so common type of earthquakes that will be in the limelight

**PARA 2** ... background context to have the reader better comprehend the material to come

**PARA 3** ... through Wadati's discovery and observations the author intends to present evidence for the existence of the deep events

**PARA 4** ... discusses briefly what causes such deep events to occur

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. demonstrating why the methods of early seismologists were **flawed (negative tone) ... the methods of early seismologists are mentioned in less than 5 words in the passage in line 14 and that too to show contrast in the approach Wadati used ... the author never says or implies that their methods were flawed in general ... maybe they weren't looking for deep events at all in the methods they were applying**
- B. **arguing (implies opinion)** that deep events are poorly understood and deserve further study ... **the passage can be least seen as a persuasion passage ... the proposition of further study is never a part of the passage**
- C. **defending (implies opinion and positive tone)** a revolutionary theory about the causes of earthquakes and methods of predicting them ... **there have to be people or general positions that oppose a particular theory for you to be able to defend it ...**

revolutionary implies something that radically changes the way things are perceived by a large mass of people ... although Wadati was the first to demonstrate the existence ... it can hardly be called revolutionary only considering the context of the passage ... all discoveries need not be revolutionary ... there are no methods in the passage for predicting earthquakes

- D. discussing evidence for the existence of deep events and the conditions that allow them to occur ... **this is exactly what the organization of the passage mentioned above justifies. CORRECT**
- E. comparing the effects of shallow events with those of deep events ... **the shallow events are only mentioned to give way to the main topic of discussion – the deep events ... the passage is not a comparison passage and certainly not of effects ... the effects are only compared to prove that there exist two kinds of earthquakes ... moreover, you compare two things only when you know for sure that both exist ... not when you're trying to put forth evidence for the existence of one of them**

**The author uses the comparisons to porcelain and putty in order to (purpose question)**

- A. explain why the Earth's mantle is under great pressure ... **porcelain and putty are not introduced as materials that are generally under great pressure ... the comparison does not serve to explain the reason behind the mantle being under great pressure**
- B. distinguish the earthquake's epicenter from its focus ... **the two are terms / labels which have a specific definition attached to them ... they have nothing to do with either of the two (porcelain or putty) in the passage**
- C. demonstrate the conditions under which a Wadati-Benioff zone forms ... **the zones are part of the final paragraph and the two in question are part of the first ... there is no link between the two**
- D. explain why S waves are slower than P waves ... **the reason for this phenomenon is not even mentioned in the passage**
- E. illustrate why the crust will fracture but the mantle will not ... **CORRECT ... the comparison to porcelain is used to illustrate the cracking procedure of the crust on the surface ... the comparison to putty is to highlight the extreme nature of stress in the mantle and the ductile nature of the rock there**

**It can be inferred from the passage that if the S waves from an earthquake arrive at a given location long after the P waves, which of the following must be true?**

- A. The earthquake was a deep event ... **as per the passage this would only have been the case if the point P were the epicentre. Since point P is a point in general lines 17 – 20 of the passage govern the basis for the correct answer to this question**
- B. The earthquake was a shallow event ... **again since the point P is a general point in the question above we cannot infer anything about whether the event was deep or shallow**
- C. The earthquake focus was distant ... **lines 17 – 20 imply that the time difference in arrival at a point between P and the S waves increases with increasing distance from the focus point ... thus perfectly inferable ... CORRECT**

- D. The earthquake focus was nearby ... again lines 17 – 20 imply that the time difference in arrival at a point between P and the S waves increases with increasing distance from the focus point ... this option is thus 180 degrees
- E. The earthquake had a low peak intensity ... even in the passage intensity (whenever discussed) of the earthquake is discussed in terms of the variation of the intensity of the earthquake over a distance ... the intensity of the earthquakes (i.e. the originating intensity) is never a part of the context of the passage

The method used by Wadati to determine the depths of earthquakes is most like which of the following?

- A. Determining the depth of a well by dropping stones into the well and timing how long they take to reach the bottom ... this would be synonymous to Wadati measuring the time of arrival of the seismic waves in general from earthquakes located at different depths. Wadati relied on the difference in the arrival times of the two constituent waves ... i.e. a differential measurement ... this option deals with an absolute measurement
- B. Determining the height of a mountain by measuring the shadow it casts at different times of the day ... this option is synonymous to Wadati measuring the time of arrival of the seismic waves at two different points of time ... notice that even in this option were just measuring a single property originating from the focal point ... as per the passage we need to make a differential measurement between two properties both of which originate simultaneously from the starting point
- C. Determining the distance from a thunderstorm by timing the interval between the flash of a lightning bolt and the thunder it produces ... perfect in every sense ... notice that the flash (light emitted and equivalent of P waves) and the bang (sound emitted and equivalent of S waves) are two properties originating at the same instant from the same point, however, because of different travelling speeds their difference in arrival at various points from their origin varies proportionally ... CORRECT
- D. Determining the distance between two points by counting the number of paces it takes to cover the distance and measuring a single pace ... this is a pretty basic measuring technique and has nothing to do with differential measurements between two originating properties from the same point
- E. Determining the speed at which a car is traveling by timing how long it takes to travel a known distance ... this again is an absolute measurement of a single property ... there is no differential measurement seen here in this option

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 59)

In most earthquakes the Earth's crust cracks like

porcelain. Stress builds up until a fracture forms at a depth of a few kilometers and the crust slips to relieve the stress. Some earthquakes, **however** (CONTRAST WORD), take place

Line 5 hundreds of kilometers down in the Earth's mantle, where high pressure makes rock so ductile that it flows instead of cracking, even under stress severe enough to deform it like putty. How can there be earthquakes at such depths?

Line 10 That such deep events do occur has been accepted only since 1927, when the seismologist Kiyoo Wadati convincingly demonstrated their existence. Instead of comparing the arrival times of seismic waves at different locations, as earlier researchers had done.

Line 15 Wadati relied on a time difference between the arrival of primary (P) waves and the slower secondary (S) waves. Because P and S waves travel at different but fairly constant speeds, the interval between their arrivals increases in proportion to the distance from

Line 20 the earthquake focus, or rupture point. For **most** (shallow events) earthquakes, Wadati discovered, the interval was quite short near the epicenter, the point on the surface where shaking is strongest. For a **few** (deep) events, however, the delay was long even at the epicenter.

Line 25 Wadati saw a similar pattern when he analyzed data on the intensity of shaking. **Most** (shallow) earthquakes had a small area of intense shaking, which weakened rapidly with increasing distance from the epicenter, but **others** (deep events) were characterized by a lower peak intensity, felt over

Line 30 a broader area. Both the P-S intervals and the

**Comment [RN151]:** Note how the contrast word in the very beginning sets us right in the direction of what the rest of the passage is going to be talking about ... the first 9 lines of the passage coupled with this contrast word tell us that the author is interested in taking up the not so common earthquakes

intensity patterns suggested two kinds of earthquakes:

the more common shallow events, in which the focus lay just under the epicenter, and deep events, with a focus several hundred kilometers down.

**Comment [RN152]:** The sentence links the observations presented above with what they infer → the presence of deep events ... this paragraph thus functions as evidence for the existence of deep events ...

**Line 35** The question remained: how can such quakes occur, given that mantle rock at a depth of more than 50 kilometers is too ductile to store enough stress to fracture? Wadati's work suggested that deep events occur in areas (now called Wadati-Benioff zones)

**Comment [RN153]:** Introduces the conditions that favour the occurrence or the onset of deep originating earthquakes ...

**Line 40** where one crustal plate is forced under another and descends into the mantle. The descending rock is substantially cooler than the surrounding mantle and hence is less ductile and much more liable to fracture.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage is a purely factual discussion passage ...

The organization of the passage (paragraph wise) may be laid out as follows ...

**PARA 1** ... steers us in the direction of deep occurring earthquakes. The question in the last sentence confirms that it is the not so common type of earthquakes that will be in the limelight

**PARA 2** ... background context to have the reader better comprehend the material to come

**PARA 3** ... through Wadati's discovery and observations the author intends to present evidence for the existence of the deep events

**PARA 4** ... discusses briefly what causes such deep events to occur

### QUESTIONS

The passage supports which of the following statements about the relationship between the epicenter and the focus of an earthquake?

- A. P waves originate at the focus and S waves originate at the epicentre ... **both waves are understood to originate from the same point as per the passage ... the focus**
- B. In deep events the epicenter and the focus are reversed ... **there is no such reversal ever talked of in the passage**

- C. In shallow events the epicenter and the focus coincide ... **coincide implies lying one on top of each other ... concurrent ... the passage says that the focus lies closer to the epicentre in the case of a shallow event, however, never talks of a case where they coincide**
- D. In both deep and shallow events the focus lies beneath the epicentre ... **absolutely CORRECT ... though the distance between the two points may be different depending on the type of event being considered, the focus always lies beneath the surface point**
- E. The epicenter is in the crust, whereas the focus is in the mantle ... **the epicentre is defined as the surface point observed to have the maximum intensity of shaking ... and the focus lies in the mantle only in the case of the rare deep events ... not always**

The passage suggests that which of the following must take place in order for any (both deep and shallow) earthquake to occur?

- I. Stress must build up ... **lines 2 & 7 confirm this option for both deep and shallow**
- II. Cool rock must descend into the mantle ... **only true in case of deep event – line 41**
- III. A fracture must occur ... **lines 41 – 43 and line 2 confirm this for both events**

- A. I only ... **incorrect**
- B. II only ... **incorrect**
- C. III only ... **incorrect**
- D. I and III only ... **CORRECT**
- E. I, II, and III ... **incorrect**

Information presented in the passage suggests that, compared with seismic activity at the epicenter of a shallow event (most earthquakes), seismic activity at the epicenter of a deep event (rare earthquakes) is characterized by

- A. shorter P-S intervals and higher peak intensity ... **lines 21 – 30 confirm the exact opposite to what this option has to say ... the option presents characteristics typical of a shallow event ... 180 degrees answer**
- B. shorter P-S intervals and lower peak intensity ... **since the distance of the measuring point (the epicenter) from the focus is greater for a deep event the P-S interval should be longer**
- C. longer P-S intervals and similar peak intensity ... **lines 28 – 29 confirm that the peak intensity for a deep event is lower not similar**
- D. longer P-S intervals and higher peak intensity ... **lines 28 – 29 confirm that the peak intensity for a deep event is lower not higher**
- E. longer P-S intervals and lower peak intensity ... **both aspects bear the correct relation as per lines 21 – 30 of the passage ... CORRECT**

The passage suggests which of the following about the views held by researchers before 1927?

- A. Some researchers did not believe that deep events could actually occur ... **lines 10 – 11 confirm that deep events had been accepted only in 1927 after it was convincingly shown that they existed ... this is sufficient to infer that at least some doubted the**



idea of their existence prior to 1927. Otherwise the idea would be accepted long back ... thus **CORRECT**

- B. Many researchers **rejected (a bit extreme)** the use of P-S intervals for determining the depths of earthquakes ... **the P & S waves are a part of the post 1927 era ... the rejection cannot be inferred from the passage**
- C. Some researchers doubted that the mantle was too ductile to store the stress needed for an earthquake ... **what the option intends to say is that the researchers doubted the fact that the mantle was too ductile to store stress and not the other way round as might be confused with given the language of the option ... the passage provides (in lines 35 – 38) sound reason to believe that the fact that the mantle was too ductile to store stress was universally accepted as a given. There is no reason as per the passage that this was ever doubted ... this was a believed fact**
- D. Most researchers expected P waves to be slower than S waves ... **the P & S waves were introduced post 1927 ... nothing about them can be inferred prior to that point of time**
- E. Few researchers accepted the current model of how shallow events occur ... **the occurrence of shallow events is not an issue pre or post 1927 as per the passage ... there is no model in the passage as such either**

The author's explanation of how deep events occur (lines 38 – 43) would be most weakened if which of the following were discovered to be true?

- A. Deep events are far less common than shallow events ... **the infrequency of deep events does not attack the procedure the author puts forth in lines 38 – 43**
- B. Deep events occur in places other than where crustal plates meet ... **this directly attacks the procedure described in lines 38 – 43 by giving us a reason to doubt the explanation for the deep events that occur in places with no crustal plates ... crustal plates form the backbone of the procedure described for how deep events occur ... thus CORRECT**
- C. Mantle rock is more ductile at a depth of several hundred kilometers than it is at 50 kilometers ... **there is no reason to believe that even if the procedure described in lines 38 – 43 were to happen at that depth, would be difficult to understand just because the rock down there is more ductile**
- D. The speeds of both P and S waves are slightly greater than previously thought ... **the P & S waves have nothing to do with explaining how the deep events occur ... they're only to confirm the event's presence**
- E. Below 650 kilometers earthquakes cease to occur ... **this has absolutely no bearing on the argument that deep events follow the procedure mentioned in lines 38 – 43**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 60)

Grassland songbirds often nest in the same grassland-

wetland complexes as waterfowl, particularly in a certain part of those complexes, namely, upland habitats surrounding wetlands. **Although (CONTRAST WORD)** some wildlife

Line 5 management procedures directed at waterfowl, such as habitat enhancement or restoration, may also benefit songbirds, the impact of others, **especially** the control of waterfowl predators, remains difficult to predict. **For example**, most predators of waterfowl

Line 10 nests prey opportunistically on songbird nests, and removing these predators could directly increase songbird nesting success. Alternatively, small mammals such as mice and ground squirrels are important in the diet of many waterfowl-nest predators

Line 15 and can themselves be important predators of songbird nests. Thus removing waterfowl-nest predators could affect songbird nesting success through subsequent increases in small-mammal populations.

Line 20 In 1995 and 1996, researchers trapped and removed certain waterfowl nest predators, primary raccoons and striped skunks, then observed subsequent survival rates for songbird nests. Surprisingly, they observed no significant effect on songbird nesting success. This

Line 25 may be due to several factors (... suggestive opinion by the author). Neither raccoons nor striped skunks consume ground squirrels, which are important predators of songbird nests. Thus, their removal may not have led to significant increases in populations of smaller predators. Additionally, both

Line 30 raccoons and striped skunks prefer wetlands and

**Comment [RN154]:** Notice how the use of contrast words introduces a problem that the author is to take up in the rest of the paragraph ... the three boldfaced words ... 'although', 'especially' and 'for example' are important giveaways that the issue taken up using these three words should fare in the main purpose of the passage ... the author uses the contrast word to highlight the issue ... the especially to be a bit more specific ... and the 'for example' to have us convinced that this is something that the author must really want to discuss in the passage

**Comment [RN155]:** The author after presenting the results of the experiment – which by the way is in line with the issue introduced in para 1 – puts in his own thought or his own belief or his own explanation as to why there was no significant change observed ... this is something that is exclusively held by the author and the author alone ... hence his opinion ... the opinion must be a part of the main purpose of the passage

spend little time in upland habitats; removing these species may not have increased the nesting success of songbirds in the uplands enough to allow detection.

**Author: OPINION (suggestive in nature)**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

**The organization of the passage (paragraph wise) may be laid out as follows ...**

**PARA 1 ... the author takes up this space to introduce to us a problem and give us a brief of its complexity by offering a few examples**

**PARA 2 ... here the author takes up an experiment in line with what the complexity of the problem addresses and offers us his explanation of the surprising result observed in the experiment**

### QUESTIONS

**According to the passage, which of the following is true about the role played by ground squirrels in the ecology of grassland-wetland complexes?**

- A. While not important in the diet of raccoons or striped skunks, ground squirrels are a significant source of food for other waterfowl-nest predators ... **this particular answer may be inferred from two locations in the passage ... lines 12 – 16 confirm that ground squirrels are significantly important in the diet of many waterfowl-nest predators and lines 25 – 27 confirm that neither raccoons nor striped skunks consume ground squirrels ... thus CORRECT ... notice how the option says ‘other waterfowl-nest predators’ and not ‘ALL other waterfowl-nest predators’ which would have been an extreme answer choice**
- B. Whereas ground squirrels are typically important as predators of songbird nests, their opportunistic predation on waterfowl nests also has an observable effect on waterfowl nesting success ... **the opportunistic predation of waterfowl nests’ predators on song birds’ nests is what is taken up in the passage not the other way around ... factors indirectly affecting the chances of waterfowl nesting success are not mentioned in the passage**
- C. Although most waterfowl-nest predators prey on small mammals such as mice and ground squirrels, populations of ground squirrels tend to increase quickly enough to compensate for this level of predation ... **the increase in the population from a compensation point of view is not a part of the passage**
- D. Although ground squirrels have been known to prey on songbird nests, a larger portion of their diets is usually provided by predation on waterfowl nests ... **the diet of ground squirrels is not mentioned in the passage anywhere in the passage ... the ground squirrels are introduced only as important predators of song-bird nests (line 27) and nothing else**
- E. Since larger predators tend to prefer small mammals to songbird eggs as a food source, a large population of ground squirrels plays an important role in controlling

opportunistic predation on songbird nests ... **predator preference as mentioned in this option is not confirmed from the context of the passage ... opportunistic predation is never mentioned to be controlled as a result of some factor**

Which of the following best describes the function of the sentence “Neither raccoons...songbird nests” in the context of the passage as a whole?

- A. It raises questions about the validity of a theory described in the first paragraph ... **there is no theory anywhere in the passage ... the first paragraph presents a problem**
- B. It points out an oversimplification that is inherent in the argument presented in the first paragraph ... **an inherent oversimplification in an argument is most likely to be a flaw in the argument ... first off there is no argument in the passage ... there is no claim made by the author which is then substantiated vis hard evidence ... neither is anything shown to be oversimplified**
- C. It introduces information that may help explain the results of the experiment that are presented earlier in the paragraph ... **CORRECT ... the highlighted portion forms part of an explanation offered by the author to explain the surprising result in the same paragraph above**
- D. It provides a specific example of the type of data collected in the experiment described earlier in the paragraph ... **the highlighted portion forms a part of the explanation proposed by the author not an observation of the experiment itself ... the only data (as per the passage) collected in the experiment is that there was no significant effect on the songbird nesting success**
- E. It anticipates a potential objection to the conclusions drawn by the researchers involved in the experiment described earlier in the paragraph ... **the researchers are never seen to draw any conclusion in the passage ... rather than anticipating a potential objection ... the highlighted portion serves to explain the seemingly surprising result**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. describe some procedures used for wildlife management and consider some problems associated with the execution of those procedures ... **the procedures as such are at most only mentioned and never described as in how they are carried out ... there is only one problem taken up in the passage ... the unpredictable consequences issue ... the use of the word problems as in plural is unwarranted as per the passage**
- B. outline a problem related to a wildlife management procedure (**basically what para 1 does**) and offer potential explanations for the results of an experiment bearing on that problem (**basically what para 2 does**) ... **CORRECT ... this is what the author is concerned with in the passage**
- C. present experimental results that illustrate the need for certain wildlife management procedures and point out some inconsistencies in those results ... **the results were surprising does not mean that they contained inconsistencies ... to conclude that results contain inconsistencies, first off, you're required to have more than one result ... the passage deals with only one ... the passage never asserts the need for a certain procedure**

- D. **argue (almost always implies an opinion)** that a certain procedure used for wildlife management **should (implies a persuasive tone)** be modified because of its unintended consequences ... **the passage never implies that the consequence of wildlife management procedures are unintended ... just that they are difficult to predict ... the author is never seen persuading anyone as is implied by this answer choice**
- E. **propose (implies opinion)** that further experiments be performed to assess the long-term effects of certain wildlife management procedures ... **further experiments being proposed is not a part of the passage ... neither is the assessment of 'long-term' effects ... both these terms are unwarranted considering the context of the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 61)

Grassland songbirds often nest in the same grassland-wetland complexes as waterfowl, particularly in a certain part of those complexes, namely, upland

habitats surrounding wetlands. **Although (CONTRAST WORD)** some wildlife

management procedures directed at waterfowl, such as habitat enhancement or restoration, may also benefit songbirds, the impact of others, **especially** the

control of waterfowl predators, remains difficult to predict. **For example**, most predators of waterfowl

nest prey opportunistically on songbird nests, and removing these predators could directly increase songbird nesting success. Alternatively, small mammals such as mice and ground squirrels are important in the diet of many waterfowl-nest predators

and can themselves be important predators of songbird nests. Thus removing waterfowl-nest predators could affect songbird nesting success through subsequent increases in small-mammal

**Comment [RN156]:** Notice how the use of contrast words introduces a problem that the author is to take up in the rest of the paragraph ... the three boldfaced words ... 'although', 'especially' and 'for example' are important giveaways that the issue taken up using these three words should fare in the main purpose of the passage ... the author uses the contrast word to highlight the issue ... the especially to be a bit more specific ... and the 'for example' to have us convinced that this is something that the author must really want to discuss in the passage

populations.

Line 20 In 1995 and 1996, researchers trapped and removed certain waterfowl nest predators, primary raccoons and striped skunks, then observed subsequent survival rates for songbird nests. Surprisingly, they observed no significant effect on songbird nesting success. This

Line 25 may be due to several factors (... suggestive opinion by the author). Neither raccoons nor striped skunks consume ground squirrels, which are important predators of songbird nests. Thus, their

removal may not have led to significant increases in populations of smaller predators. Additionally, both

Line 30 raccoons and striped skunks prefer wetlands and spend little time in upland habitats; removing these species may not have increased the nesting success of songbirds in the uplands enough to allow detection.

**Author: OPINION (suggestive in nature)**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The organization of the passage (paragraph wise) may be laid out as follows ...

**PARA 1** ... the author takes up this space to introduce to us a problem and give us a brief of its complexity by offering a few examples

**PARA 2** ... here the author takes up an experiment in line with what the complexity of the problem addresses and offers us his explanation of the surprising result observed in the experiment

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that removing waterfowl-nest predators could possibly have a negative effect on songbird populations because

- A. songbird populations could then grow to unsustainable numbers ... the population growth of the songbirds is actually threatened rather than being fuelled ... 180 degree
- B. small-mammal population could then move out of the uplands into wetland areas ... the uplands are introduced in the second para as part of the explanation that the author offers on his behalf ... there too the inter-migration between uplands and grasslands is never mentioned or implied

**Comment [RN157]:** The author after presenting the results of the experiment – which by the way is in line with the issue introduced in para 1 – puts in his own thought or his own belief or his own explanation as to why there was no significant change observed ... this is something that is exclusively held by the author and the author alone ... hence his opinion ... the opinion must be a part of the main purpose of the passage



- C. competition among remaining waterfowl-nest predators could **decrease significantly (extreme) ... the waterfowl-nest predators competing amongst each other is never a part of the passage**
- D. a resulting increase in waterfowl populations could crowd out songbird populations ... **the two species are never seen to be competing for space in the passage ... neither is it implied in the passage that such competition can or does occur**
- E. a resulting increase in small-mammal populations could increase small-mammal predation on songbirds ... **this is an exact paraphrase of what the author concludes in lines 16 – 19 of the passage ... the small mammals are important predators of songbird-nests and are kept in control because they comprise an important part of the waterfowl-birds' diet ... CORRECT**

**It can be inferred that the habitat preferences of raccoons and striped skunks affected the results of the experiment described in the passage for which of the following reasons?**

- A. Songbird nests in the wetlands are usually located in places that **most (superlative – AVOID) waterfowl-nest predators cannot reach ... the location of the songbird nests is not a part of the discussion in the passage ... moreover, the opportunistic predation does not imply that it becomes difficult for the waterfowl-nest predators to reach the song-birds' nests**
- B. Raccoons and striped skunks are not usually found in areas where songbird nests tend to be located ... **the passage mentions in lines 29 – 31 that striped skunks and raccoons are not prefer wetlands and spend little time in uplands where the songbird nests mainly are ... this option is an exact paraphrase ... CORRECT**
- C. Mice and ground squirrels tend to avoid predation by raccoons and striped skunks by remaining **exclusively (extreme – AVOID) in the uplands ... lines 25 – 27 explicitly mention that neither racoons nor striped skunks consume mice and ground squirrels ... in such a scenario there is no avoiding them**
- D. The populations of small mammals in the wetlands are usually controlled by larger waterfowl-nest predators such as raccoons and striped skunks ... **this option makes it seem as if it is only the larger predators that control the population of small mammals ... although it is true that racoons and striped skunks prey on small mammals as per the passage, this does not necessarily mean that they are the reason that the population of the small mammals stays controlled ... the controlled population could after all be the result of mother nature itself**
- E. The waterfowl on which raccoons and striped skunks prey in the wetlands compete with songbirds for food ... **note that the passage everywhere is concerned with waterfowl-nest predation ... never with predation of actual birds themselves ... moreover, nowhere does the passage imply any sort of competition for food (especially regarding the food the birds eat)**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 62)

In mid-February 1917 a women's movement independent of political affiliation erupted in New York City, the stronghold of the Socialist Party in the United States. Protesting against the high cost of living,

Line 5 thousands of women refused to buy chickens, fish, and vegetables. The boycott shut down much of the City's foodstuffs marketing for two weeks, riveting public attention on the issue of food prices, which had increased partly as a result of increased exports of

Line 10 food to Europe that had been occurring since the outbreak of the First World War.

By early 1917 the Socialist party had established itself as a major political presence in New York City. New York Socialists, whose customary spheres of struggle

Line 15 were electoral work and trade union organizing, seized the opportunity and quickly organized an extensive series of cost-of-living protests designed to direct the women's movement toward Socialist goals.

Underneath the Socialists' **brief** commitment to cost-

Line 20 of-living organizing lay a basic indifference to the issue itself. While some Socialists did view price protests as a direct step toward socialism, most Socialists ultimately sought to divert the cost-of-living movement into alternative channels of protest. Union organizing,

Line 25 they argued, was the best method through which to combat the high cost of living. For others, cost-of-living or organizing was valuable insofar as it led

women into the struggle for suffrage, and similarly,  
the suffrage struggle was valuable insofar as it moved

Line 30 United States society one step closer to socialism.

**Although (CONTRAST WORD)** New York's Socialists saw the cost-of-living  
issue as, at best, secondary or tertiary to the real task  
at hand, **the boycotters**, by **sharp contrast**, joined the  
price protest movement out of an urgent and deeply

Line 35 felt commitment to the cost-of-living issue. A shared  
experience of swiftly declining living standards caused  
by rising food prices drove these women to protest.

Consumer organizing spoke directly to their daily lives  
and concerns; they saw cheaper food as a valuable

Line 40 end in itself. Food price protests were these women's  
way of organizing at their own workplace, as workers  
whose occupation was shopping and preparing food  
for their families.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces a women's movement in an area predominantly influenced by the  
Socialist Party. Seeing the populous nature of the movement, it is seen procuring support  
of the socialists. The author takes two paragraphs to draw a contrast between each of the  
two entities' reason for participating in the cause as such

The passage is a clear comparison passage ...

### QUESTIONS

The author suggests which of the following about the New York Socialists' commitment to  
the cost-of-living movement?

- A. It lasted for a relatively short period of time ... **there is just one word that gives this answer option away as the right answer ... the word 'brief' in line 19 of the passage confirms that the commitment lasted a relatively short period of time ... CORRECT**
- B. It was stronger than their commitment to the suffrage struggle ... **typical mathematical answer ... infusing comparison where there is none ... the socialists are mentioned to value the movement for they aimed to merge the efforts of women with their electoral efforts as this suffrage struggle would be seen as forwarding a socialist cause**

**Comment [RN158]:** Notice how the author begins this para with a clear intention to contrast the motivations of the socialists (taken up by the author in the previous para) with those of the boycotters.

- C. It predated the cost-of-living protests that erupted in 1917 ... **there is no evidence in the passage to suggest that there was already an anti-cost-of-living feeling brewing up among the socialists**
- D. It coincided with their attempts to bring more women into union organizing ... **this option implies that the socialist party's attempts to bring women into organizing were a part of a plan completely separate from their commitment towards the movement ... this completely separate effort is not inferable from the passage ... the commitment did not coincide but rather itself was aimed at bringing women into organizing**
- E. It explained the popularity of the Socialist party in New York City ... **the passage as such never states or implies any reason behind the socialist party establishing a stronghold in New York City ... and the passage certainly doesn't imply that it was their commitment towards the movement that saw them gain popularity**

**It can be inferred from the passage that the goal of the boycotting women was the**

- A. achievement of an immediate economic outcome ... **lines 33 – 35 mention that the boycotting women felt the urgency to resolve the high cost of living issue ... and that this was one of the reason behind the many women joining up ... thus CORRECT**
- B. development of a more socialistic society ... **everything and anything related to socialistic change had to do with the goal of the socialist party**
- C. concentration of widespread consumer protests on the more narrow issue of food prices ... **this option suggests that there was an already existing consumer protest which the boycotting women were looking at concentrating on the issue of food prices ... lines 7 – 8 mention that through the protests the riveted the public ATTENTON, and not already existing consumer protest, towards the issue of surging food prices**
- D. development of one among a number of different approaches that the women wished to employ in combating the h... **there is no hint in the passage to suggest that women were considering a multiple number of approaches ... there is also no clue in the passage to suggest that the women were looking to build on the boycotting approach**
- E. attraction of more public interest to issues that the women and the New York Socialists considered important ... **the option implies that the cost-of-living issue was driven by similar motivations by both the groups ... however, the passage is an exact contrast between the motivations guiding them ... more public interest implies adding to the already existing public interest ... something not confirmed from the passage**

**Which of the following best states the function of the passage as a whole?**

- A. To contrast the views held by the Socialist party and by the boycotting women of New York City on the cost-of-living issue ... **this is exactly what the author takes up the second and the third paras of the passage to do ... perfect match ... CORRECT**
- B. To analyze the assumptions underlying opposing viewpoints within the New York Socialist party of 1917 ... **there are no opposing viewpoints held by the socialists in the passage ... the passage just discusses their motivations behind taking up the issue of the movement ... no assumptions are ever analysed in the passage**

- C. To provide a historical perspective on different approaches to the resolution of the cost-of-living issue ... **there is no approach as such mentioned in the passage ... an approach means a step by step description of how they went about solving the issue**
- D. **To chronicle (chronology based answer – AVOID)** the sequence of events that led to the New York Socialist party's emergence as a political power ... **New York Socialist party's emergence is not a part of the context of the passage**
- E. To analyze the motivations behind the Socialist party's involvement in the women's suffrage movement ... **the women's movement in the passage was towards the high cost of living, the suffrage movement is not a part of the passage ... such a movement is not even mentioned in the passage ... forget the motivations behind it**

According to the passage, most New York Socialists believed which of the following about the cost-of-living movement?

- A. It was **primarily (extreme)** a way to interest women in joining the Socialist Party ... **nowhere in the passage are the socialists seen interested in getting women to be members of their party**
- B. It was an expedient that was useful only insofar as it furthered other goals ... **lines 26 – 30 confirm that socialists only viewed the movement as a means to further their own cause(s) ... thus CORRECT**
- C. It would indirectly result in an increase in the number of women who belonged to labor unions ... **this option implies that the movement would automatically and indirectly see a rise in the number of women in labor unions (without the socialists diverting the movement into alternative channels of protest) ... the passage actually sees the socialists with a strong intent to divert the movement into union organizing**
- D. It required a long-term commitment but inevitably represented a direct step toward socialism ... **line 21 confirms that most socialists did not view movement as a direct step to socialism ... they viewed it more as an indirect step ... 180 degrees**
- E. It served as an effective complement to union organizing ... **a complement is something when joined completes the picture presented to a third person ... the option implies that through the movement the socialists believed that their cause towards a more socialists society would be better appreciated if they were to support the movement ... the passage does not imply this**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 63)

There is no consensus among researchers regarding what qualifies a substance as a pheromone. While most agree on a basic definition of pheromones as

**Comment [RN159]:** This specifically becomes the topic of the passage that the author takes up further in the passage to build on ... the author spends the entire rest of the passage being a bit more specific as to what exactly the issues are regarding the debate ...

chemicals released by one individual of a species

Line 5 which, when detected by another individual of the same species, elicit a specific behavioral or physiological response, some researchers also specify that the response to pheromones must be unconscious. In addition, the distinction between

Line 10 pheromones and odorants—chemicals that are consciously detected as odors—can be blurry, and some researchers classify pheromones as a type of odorant. Evidence that pheromone responses may not involve conscious odor perception comes from the

Line 15 finding that in many species, pheromones are processed by the vomeronasal (or accessory olfactory) system, which uses a special structure in the nose, the vomeronasal organ (VNO), to receive chemical signals.

The neural connections between the VNO and the  
Line 20 brain are separate from those of the main olfactory system, whose processing of odorants triggers sensations of smell. But while the VNO does process many animal pheromone signals, not all animal pheromones work through the VNO. Conversely, not

Line 25 all chemical signals transmitted via the VNO qualify as pheromones. For example, garter snakes detect a chemical signal from earthworms—one of their favorite foods—via the VNO, and they use this signal to track their prey.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces a topic of debate. The author presents various reasons (mainly the issues faced in classification) as to why the debate is so complex in nature.



The passage is purely factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

It can be inferred from the passage that in classifying pheromones as a type of odorant, the researchers referred to in the highlighted text posit that (location based question)

- A. pheromones are perceived consciously ... lines 9 – 13 confirm that the some researchers classify pheromones as a type of odorant which is explicitly mentioned as a chemical that is consciously detected ... thus inferable ... **CORRECT**
- B. **most (superlative – AVOID)** pheromones are processed by the VNO ... the passage clearly implies that the VNO processing (either of a pheromone or of a chemical) is totally unconscious in nature ... lines 10 – 11 clearly mention odorants to be classified as chemicals consciously detected
- C. **most (superlative – AVOID)** chemical signals processed by the VNO are pheromones ... firstly line 23 mentions that many (an absolute measure ... synonymous to saying several) pheromones are processed via the VNO ... this is not synonymous to saying that most (a relative measure ... synonymous to saying greater than 50 PERCENT) signals processed are pheromones
- D. Pheromone perception does not occur exclusively between members of the same species ... whether pheromone perception can take place among members of different species is not touched upon even slightly by the author in his passage ... let alone the 'some researchers' saying this
- E. pheromones do not always elicit a specific behavioral or physiological response ... this is a basic definition of pheromones that most agree to ... the some researchers are never seen to contend with this definition

According to the passage, the fact that pheromones are processed by the VNO in many animal species has been taken as evidence of which of the following?

- A. The accessory and main olfactory systems are not separate ... the passage never implies that pheromones can only be processed by the main olfactory and thus VNO should be a part of the main olfactory ... moreover, this option is never even tried to be proven by anyone
- B. Odorants and pheromones are not distinct types of chemicals ... odorants in the passage are associated with conscious detection ... pheromones (because they're processed through the VNO) with unconscious detection ... thus 180 degrees answer
- C. Odorants and pheromones both elicit a specific behavioral response ... the behavioural response that they elicit or might elicit is not a part of the passage at all
- D. Pheromones do not trigger conscious sensations of smell ... lines 13 – 17 confirm that this option is an exact paraphrase of what they have to say ... exact match. **CORRECT**
- E. Pheromones aid animals in tracking prey ... prey tracking procedure or implication on part of pheromones is not mentioned in the passage

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. compare and contrast the ways in which the vomeronasal organ and the main olfactory system process chemicals ... **the passage is not a compare and contrast one ... the exact procedure of how either of the two systems (VNO or the main olfactory) process the incoming chemicals is not even mentioned in the passage ... 'ways' is not confirmed from the passage**
- B. summarize the debate over the role the vomeronasal organ plays in odor perception ... **role played implies digging into the exact function of the organ in odor perception ... moreover, VNO is not even linked to ODOR perception in the passage, rather the VNO processing forms the crux of the evidence that pheromones are not a type of odorant ... notice how the answer option does not even have any sort of mention of the word 'pheromone'**
- C. present some of the issues involved in the debate over what constitutes a pheromone ... **this is exactly what the author is doing in the passage ... he takes up a debate and presents reason why it may not be so easy to resolve the debate ... CORRECT**
- D. **propose**(implies opinion for a passage that has none) a new definition of pheromones based on recent research ... **there is neither any recent research mentioned in the passage nor any new definition**
- E. **argue**(implies opinion for a passage that has none) that pheromones should be classified as a type of odorant ... **nowhere does the passage try to convince the reader to view pheromone as a type of odorant ... the author stays neutral (unbiased) towards what pheromones should be classified as**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 64)

Although recent censure of corporate boards of directors as “passive” and “supine” **may** be excessive, those who criticize board performance have plenty of substantive ammunition. Too many corporate boards fail in their two crucial responsibilities of overseeing long-term company strategy and of selecting, evaluating, and determining appropriate compensation of top management. At times, despite disappointing corporate performance, compensation of chief

Line 5

**Comment [RN160]:** Although the author makes use of the word may, notice that the author still manages to stay completely UNINVOLVED in the conversation here ... to reiterate, he simply says that though you might call it excessive and be correct about the degree of measure, you have to agree that there is some evidence that upholds at least part of their criticism ... this is a purely factual statement ...

Line 10 executive officers reaches indefensibly high levels.

**Nevertheless (CONTRART WORD)**, suggestions that the government should legislate board reform are **premature**. There are ample opportunities for boards themselves to improve corporate performance.

Line 15 Most corporate boards' compensation committees focus primarily on peer-group comparisons. They are content if the pay of top executives approximates that of the executives of competing firms with comparable short-term earnings or even that of executives of

Line 20 competing firms of comparable size. However, mimicking the compensation policy of competitors for the sake of parity means neglecting the value of compensation as a means of stressing long-term performance. By tacitly detaching executive

Line 25 compensation policy from long-term performance, committees harm their companies and the economy as a whole. **The committees must develop incentive compensation policies to emphasize long-term performance (... opinion by the author). For example** a board's compensation

Line 30 committee can, by carefully proportioning straight salary and such short-term and long-term incentives as stock options, encourage top management to pursue a responsible strategy.

**Author: OPINION** (*suggestive in nature ... more like a proposition*)

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces to the reader the problem of gauging corporate compensation of their employees. The author discards a solution and by going through the possible reasons behind the problem proposes his own solution in the end.

**Comment [RN161]:** The author here strongly disagrees with the legislative reform as being a possible solution ... in the context of the passage as a WHOLE, this statement functions to introduce the reader to other possible solutions that should be considered before one thinks of legislative reform ... this at most can be a mild opinion or a signaller of an opinion to come ...

**Comment [RN162]:** Note the prescriptive tone of the sentence here ... this coupled with 'for example' (the author tries to exemplify his own input) that follows confirms this sentence to be an opinion by the author

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, the majority of compensation committees put the greatest emphasis on which of the following when determining compensation for their executives?

- A. Long-term corporate performance ... **lines 22 – 24 confirm that the committees neglect long-term corporate performance when determining compensation ... 180 degrees**
- B. The threat of government regulation ... **there is never any threat from the government in the passage**
- C. Salaries paid to executives of comparable corporations ... **lines 15 – 20 stand evidence to this option ... each word verified ... CORRECT**
- D. The probable effect the determination will have on competitors ... **effect on competitors is not a part of the passage**
- E. The probable effect the economic climate will have on the company ... **it is the effect of the compensation policy that is mentioned to harm the economy as a whole in lines 26 – 27, however, nowhere does the passage speak of any economic climate impacting the company**

The passage suggests which of the following about government legislation requiring that corporate boards undergo reform?

- A. Such legislation is likely to discourage candidates from joining corporate boards ... **candidates' interests in joining the corporate boards is not a part of the passage**
- B. Such legislation is likely to lead to reduced competition among companies ... **competition among companies is not a part of the passage**
- C. The performance of individual companies would be affected by such legislation to a greater extent than would the economy as a whole ... **this comparison is completely absurd in context to what the passage has to say ... the performance of the companies is never compared with that of the economy**
- D. Such legislation would duplicate initiatives already being made by corporate boards to improve their own performance ... **the legislation is nowhere in the passage to be even partially redundant in light of any ongoing efforts ... initiatives is not verified from the passage**
- E. Corporate boards themselves could act to make such legislation unnecessary ... **lines 11 – 14 are seen lobbying for the exact same thing what this option says ... CORRECT**

Which of the following best describes the organization of the passage?

- A. A problem is acknowledged, the causes are explored, and a solution is offered ... **the first passage sees the acknowledging ... the second para starts with the exploration and ends with the prescription ... thus CORRECT**
- B. A question is raised, opposing points of view are **evaluated (passage not an evaluation passage)**, and several alternative answers are discussed ... **there is never any question raised (explicitly or implicitly) in the passage ... the passage has just one point of view – the author's**

- C. A means of dealing with a problem is proposed, and the manner in which a solution was reached is explained ... **the proposition comes later ... there is no describing how a solution was reached**
- D. A plan of action is advanced, and the probable outcomes of that plan are discussed ... **the advancement comes later in the passage and it is more of a solution rather than a plan of action which is more detailed ... probable OUTCOMES are never talked of in the passage**
- E. Two competing theories are described and then reconciled ... **there is not even a single theory in the passage ... the passage is not even remotely linked to any sort of reconciliation**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 65)

In colonial Connecticut between 1670 and 1719, women participated in one of every six civil cases, the vast majority of which were debt related. Women's participation dropped to one in ten cases after 1719, and to one in twenty by the 1770's. **However** (CONTRAST WORD), as Cornelia Hughes Dayton notes in *Women Before the Bar: Gender, Law, and Society in Connecticut, 1639-1789*, these statistics are somewhat deceptive: in fact, both the absolute numbers and the percentage of adult women participating in civil cases grew steadily throughout the eighteenth century, but the legal activity of men also increased dramatically, and at a much faster rate. Single, married, and widowed women continued to pursue their own and their husbands' debtors through legal action much as they had done in the previous century, but despite this continuity, their place in the legal system shifted dramatically. Men's commercial interests and credit

**Comment [RN163]:** Introduces Dayton's take on how the statistics should be interpreted ... the entire passage that follows is Dayton's view of changing legal status of women in colonial Connecticut

networks became increasingly far-flung, owing in part  
 Line 20 to the ability of creditors to buy and sell promissory  
 notes (legal promises to pay debts). At the same time,  
 women's networks of credit and debt remained  
 primarily local and personal. Dayton **contends** that,  
 although still performing crucial economic services in  
 Line 25 their communities—services that contributed to the  
 commercialization of the colonial economy—women  
 remained for the most part outside the new economic  
 and legal culture of the eighteenth century.

**Comment [RN164]:** Dayton's opinion summarized and more explicitly stated ...

**Author:** NO OPINION (purely a narration passage)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

All the author is concerned with doing in the passage is narrating Dayton's take on the changing legal status of women in colonial Connecticut. The author ends the passage with a more explicit opinion from Dayton. The author of the passage as such has no inputs of his own in the entire passage.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. reporting an author's view of a phenomenon ... **this is exactly what the author is doing ... presenting Dayton's view of the changing place of women in the legal system.**  
**CORRECT**
- B. **disputing (signals a negative tone)** the reasons usually given for an unexpected change ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the change being talked of was unexpected ... neither does the passage have any usual reasons**
- C. **evaluating (signifies a balanced tone)** the conclusions reached by an author ... **there is at most one conclusion by Dayton presented in the last sentence of the passage ... the conclusion is never evaluated however**
- D. **assessing (signifies a balanced tone)** the impact of certain legal decisions ... **impact of legal decisions is something not verified from the content of the passage**
- E. **defending (signifies a positive tone and an opinion by the author)** a controversial point of view ... **the passage suggest no controversy in any point of view mentioned**



According to the passage, compared with women in eighteenth-century Connecticut, men were

- A. more likely to rely on credit and go into debt ... the passage mentions that men's credit networks became increasingly far flung ... however, this does not imply that they were more likely than were women to go into debt by relying on credit
- B. more likely to pursue their families' debtors ... the women are mentioned to pursue their husband's debtors, however, nowhere does the passage imply a comparison between how likely either one is to indulge in one's own family's lawsuits
- C. more likely to participate in economic transactions outside their own communities ... lines 18 – 23 confirm that while men pursued interests outside their communities, the women's networks remained local and personal ... thus CORRECT
- D. less likely to perform economic services in their own communities ... the passage mentions that the women's economic services remained restrained to their communities, however, this does not mean that they surpassed men in performing those activities
- E. less likely to participate in civil cases that were not debt-related ... the women and the men are never compared in terms of likelihood to participate in non-debt-related cases

The passage suggests that which of the following best compares the economic concerns of women with those of men toward the close of the eighteenth Century in colonial Connecticut?

- A. Both men and women had more economic responsibilities at the end of the century than they had had at the beginning of the century ... more economic responsibilities means something like more number of economic assets which one woman or one man was in charge of towards the end of the century ... no such inference
- B. Women's economic activities had become less varied by the end of the century; men's economic activities had become more varied ... at most the passage may be interpreted to say that women's activities remained more or less constant, however, no piece of evidence in the passage suggests that the women's economic activities became less varied
- C. Women's economic activities at the end of the century were similar to their activities at the beginning; men's economic activities changed considerably ... lines 13 – 19 imply that women continued much in the same manner as before, however, men's commercial interests became increasingly far-flung ... thus the option may be inferable ... CORRECT
- D. Women's economic concerns at the end of the century were primarily (extreme) familial; men's economic concerns were primarily (extreme) political ... the women are mentioned to continue to pursue their husband's debtors, however, this does not mean that their concerns were primarily familial ... political concerns are not even mentioned in the passage

- E. Women's economic concerns at the end of the century were **primarily (extreme)** personal; men's economic needs were **primarily (extreme)** familial ... **economic concerns and economic needs cannot be confirmed from the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 66)

In 1975 Chinese survey teams **re-measured** Mount

Everest, the highest of the Himalayan mountains. **Like** (COMPARISON WORD)

the British in 1852, they used the age-old technique of  
"carrying in" sea level: surveyors marched inland from

Line 5 the coast for thousands of miles, stopping at  
increments of as little as a few feet to measure their  
elevation, and marking each increment with two poles.

To measure the difference in elevation between poles,  
surveyors used an optical level—a telescope on a level  
Line 10 base—placed halfway between the poles. They sighted  
each pole, reading off measurements that were then  
used to calculate the change in elevation over each  
increment. In sight of the peaks they used

Line 15 theodolites—telescopes for measuring vertical and  
horizontal angles—to determine the elevation of the  
summit.

The Chinese, **however** (CONTRAST WORD), made efforts to correct for the

**errors** that had plagued the British. One source of  
**error** is refraction, the bending of light beams as they

Line 20 pass through air layers of different temperature and  
pressure. Because light traveling down from a summit  
passes through many such layers, a surveyor could

**Comment [RN165]:** Notice how this paragraph begins with the word 'LIKE' and carries through till the end without any contrast word ... the entire paragraph introduces everything the Chinese did that was similar to what the British had done ... this is a kind of a 'build up to the main theme' kind of passage ...

**Comment [RN166]:** The second paragraph begins with a contrast word and follows through till the end as such ... the author here presents things that the Chinese did different from the British with the obvious intention to address the issues and errors that the British had faced and made ...

sight a mirage rather than the peak itself. To **reduce refraction errors**, the Chinese team carried in sea level

Line 25 to within five to twelve miles of Everest's summit, decreasing the amount of air that light passed through on its way to their theodolites. The Chinese also launched weather balloons near their theodolites to measure atmospheric temperature and pressure

Line 30 changes to **better estimate refraction errors**. Another **hurdle** is the peak's shape. When surveyors sight the summit, there is a risk they might not all measure the same point. In 1975 the Chinese installed the first survey beacon on Everest, a red reflector visible

Line 35 through a theodolite for ten miles, as a reference point. **One more source of error** is the unevenness of sea level. The British assumed that carrying in sea level would extend an imaginary line from the shore along Earth's curve to a point beneath the Himalaya.

Line 40 In reality, sea level varies according to the irregular interior of the planet. The Chinese used a gravity meter **to correct for** local deviations in sea level.

**Author:** NO OPINION (*purely a factual passage*)

**Tone:** POSITIVE ... or SLIGHTLY POSITIVE (*implied appreciation*)

The author in the entire second paragraph presents evidence that highlight the achievements of a new modified method over an older one. The author seems to implicitly appreciate the efforts of the Chinese ... so much that he decides to write about it

**The author presents a modified method by one group of surveyors. The method is shown to build on the methods used by an earlier group of surveyors, however, addresses the issues and the errors that the earlier method had left out on.**

**Comment [RN167]:** All the boldfaced that I have marked in this paragraph confirm that the Chinese did improve on the method that the British had earlier used ... their (Chinese) efforts did not go in vain ... this primarily becomes the main theme why any author would want to write such a passage ...

## QUESTIONS

It can be inferred from the passage that refraction would be most likely to cause errors in measurements of a mountain's elevation under which of the following conditions?

- A. When there are local variations in sea level ... **the unevenness of the sea is linked to the irregular interior of the planet ... it has nothing to do with refraction errors**
- B. When light passes through humid air ... **refraction is said to be the result of passing through a variation of pressure and temperature conditions ... this option conveys just one condition throughout the course of travelling light**
- C. When theodolites are used relatively far from the mountain peak ... **lines 23 – 27 confirm that the carrying in of the sea levels was to decrease the amount of air the light travelled before it reached the surveying equipment ... this clearly implies that farther the theodolites (the surveying equipment) from the peak the more the air the light has to travel through and hence more the variation leading to refraction error ... thus CORRECT**
- D. When weather balloons indicate low air temperature and pressure ... **the refraction error is more likely to be caused when light travels through a variation of air temperature and pressure ... this option mentions low temperature and pressure at one point in space, however, fails to tell us whether the same conditions are maintained throughout the course of light or is it varied considerably**
- E. When sea level has been carried in to within five to twelve miles of the summit ... **this was used as a method to minimize the error caused by refraction and hence becomes the least likely cause ... 180 degrees**

Which of the following best describes the purpose of the first sentence of the second paragraph?

- A. Introduce a definition ... **the first sentence clearly does not define any term**
- B. Signal a transition in focus ... **the contrast word – HOWEVER – which is actually a transitional word aims at shifting the course of the passage from dealing with similarities to dealing with what the Chinese did different to improve on the earlier method ... thus CORRECT**
- C. Summarize the preceding paragraph ... **the previous paragraph shows the Chinese methods to be built on the methods used earlier by the British ... a similarity paragraph ... a summary would be more like saying that thus the methods used were pretty similar**
- D. Draw a contrast between two different theories ... **the passage has no mention of any theories**
- E. Present information that contradicts the preceding paragraph ... **there is no contradiction presented anywhere in the passage**

Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a possible source of error in surveying mountain elevation?

- A. Mirages ... **mentioned in line 23**
- B. Refraction ... **mentioned in line 24**

- C. Inaccurate instruments ... **not mentioned in the passage anywhere ... thus CORRECT ... the passage never implies any sort of problem with the instruments themselves ... just that the conditions did not allow for accurate measurements ... instruments as such are never a part of the passage**
- D. Variations in sea level ... **mentioned in line 36**
- E. Uncertainty about the exact point to be measured ... **mentioned in line 30 – 33**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. provide details about **improvements (implies slightly positive tone)** to a process ... **this is exactly what the second paragraph does after the first lays the foundation on which the second paragraphs builds ... CORRECT**
- B. **challenge (implies negative tone)** the assumptions underlying a new method ... **the passage does not present any sort of assumptions underlying the method used by the Chinese**
- C. **criticize (implies negative tone)** the way in which a failed project was carried out ... **there is no evidence to imply that the project carried out was a failed one ... rather the passage might imply quite the contrary**
- D. call for new methods to solve an existing problem ... **the author is never seen calling out for new methods ... the passage does not even imply that the accurate measurement is still a problem**
- E. explain the theory behind a new technique ... **there is never any theory discussed, described or even mentioned in the passage ... the technique used by the Chinese is more of an improved technique rather than a novel technique**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 67)

Two opposing scenarios, the “arboreal” hypothesis and the “cursorial” hypothesis, have traditionally been put forward concerning the origins of bird flight. The “arboreal” hypothesis holds that bird ancestors began to fly by climbing trees and gliding down from branches with the help of incipient feathers: the height of trees provides a good starting place for launching flight, especially through gliding. As feathers became larger over time, flapping flight evolved and birds

Line 5

Line 10 finally became fully air-borne. This hypothesis makes

**intuitive sense** (*mildly positive tone*), but certain aspects are **troubling** (*negative tone*).

Archaeopteryx (the earliest known bird) and its

maniraptoran dinosaur cousins have **no obviously** (*mildly negative tone*)

arboreal adaptations, such as feet fully adapted for

Line 15 perching. Perhaps some of them could climb trees, but

**no convincing analysis has demonstrated** (*mildly negative tone*) how

Archaeopteryx would have both climbed and flown

with its forelimbs, and there were **no plants taller than**

**a few meters** (*mildly negative tone*) in the environments where

Line 20 Archaeopteryx fossils have been found. Even if the

animals could climb trees, this ability is not

synonymous with gliding ability. (Many small animals,

and even some goats and kangaroos, are capable of

climbing trees but are not gliders.) Besides,

Line 25 Archaeopteryx shows **no obvious features** (*mildly negative tone*) of gliders,

such as a broad membrane connecting forelimbs and

hind limbs.

The “cursorial” (running) hypothesis holds that small dinosaurs ran along the ground and stretched out their

Line 30 arms for balance as they leaped into the air after

insect prey or, perhaps, to avoid predators. Even

rudimentary feathers on forelimbs could have

expanded the arm’s surface area to enhance lift

slightly. Larger feathers could have increased lift

Line 35 incrementally, until sustained flight was gradually

achieved. **Of course**, a leap into the air **does not**

**provide the acceleration** (*mildly negative tone*) produced by dropping out of a

tree; an animal would have to run quite fast to take

**Comment [RN168]:** Implies the hypothesis is logically comprehensible ... at least one is able to see through the reasoning behind it ... SUPPORTS or is a POTENTIAL STRENGTHENER of the hypothesis above hence mildly positive tone

**Comment [RN169]:** All the mildly negative tone signalling points are those that have the potential to make a reader feel sceptical of the hypothesis



off. **Still**, some small terrestrial animals **can achieve** (*partially/mildly positive tone*)

Line 40 high speeds. The cursorial hypothesis **is strengthened** (*positive tone*)

by the fact that the immediate theropod dinosaur

ancestors of birds were terrestrial, and they had the

traits needed for high lift off speeds: they were small,

agile, lightly built, long-legged, and good runners. And

Line 45 because they were bipedal, their arms were free to

evolve flapping flight, which cannot be said for other

reptiles of their time.

**Author: NO EXPLICIT OPINION ... THE PASSAGE HAS AN IMPLIED OPINION**

The opinion by the author is implicit in the passage. In both the paragraphs the author first explains the hypothesis and goes forth to comment on the hypothesis. The judgemental nature of what proceeds the explanation of both the hypothesis signals the author commenting on the hypotheses. The nature of the opinion is thus implicit in nature.

**Tone: BALANCED**

The author takes each of the two paragraphs to present a hypothesis explaining the evolution of birds. Without refuting or applauding any of the hypotheses the author seems to testing each of them out by subjecting them to potential strengtheners and weakeners. The passage is an evaluation passage.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. present **counterevidence** (*negative tone – implied criticism*) to two hypotheses concerning the origins of bird flight ... **counterevidence is an evidence that suggests the contrary to what a hypothesis suggests ... although the first paragraph does have a number of statements that appear to challenge certain aspects of the hypothesis, they do not come across as evidence that suggests something 180 degrees to the hypothesis ... moreover, the second paragraph has more supporting statements**
- B. propose an alternative to two hypotheses concerning the origins of bird flight correct certain misconceptions about hypotheses concerning the origins of bird flight ... **the passage does not see any proposition ... there is no alternative as suggested by the answer option**
- C. **dismiss** (*strongly negative tone*) counterevidence to two hypotheses concerning the origins of bird flight ... **there is no counterevidence to the two hypothesis ... just potential weakeners and strengtheners**
- D. **refute** (*strongly negative tone*) a challenge to a hypothesis concerning the origins of bird flight ... **there are two hypotheses to begin with ... this option mentions just one**

- E. **evaluate** (signifies balanced tone ... perfect) **competing** (verified from the word **opposing** in the first sentence of the passage) hypotheses concerning the origins of bird flight ... **this is exactly what the author is doing ... individually taking up the two hypotheses and evaluating them. CORRECT**

The passage presents which of the following facts as evidence that tends to undermine the arboreal hypothesis?

- A. Feathers tend to become larger over time ... **feathers becoming larger is part of the hypothesis itself ... it forms a part of the explanation of how the birds might have evolved**
- B. Flapping flight is thought to have evolved gradually over time ... **the hypothesis never suggests / implies that flapping flight evolved abnormally quicker than thought**
- C. Many small animals are capable of climbing trees ... **small animals are a part of the 'cursorial' hypothesis as they figure in the second paragraph**
- D. Plants in Archaeopteryx's known habitats were relatively small ... **lines 18 – 19 confirm that plants not being taller than a few meters is one piece used as evidence to undermine the arboreal hypothesis. CORRECT**
- E. Leaping into the air does not provide as much acceleration as gliding out of a tree ... **leaping into the air is a part of the second hypothesis in the second paragraph and hence irrelevant to the discussion in the first paragraph**

Which of the following is included in the discussion of the cursorial hypothesis but not in the discussion of the arboreal hypothesis?

- A. A discussion of some of the features of Archaeopteryx ... **this is included in the arboreal hypothesis discussion but not in the cursorial one**
- B. A description of the environment known to have been inhabited by bird ancestors ... **there is never any description of any sort of environment inhabited in the second paragraph – the cursorial hypothesis**
- C. A possible reason why bird ancestors might have been engaging in activities that eventually evolved into flight ... **although the arboreal discussion does not present us with a reason as to why the birds would climb trees and try to glide down, the cursorial discussion in lines 30 – 31 clearly mentions a reason or two as to why they would behave in a manner that would eventually see them evolve into airborne species. CORRECT**
- D. A description of the obvious features of animals with gliding ability ... **this feature is a part of both the hypotheses' discussions ... as confirmed from lines 25 – 25 & 43 – 44**
- E. An estimate of the amount of time it took for bird ancestors to evolve the kind of flapping flight that allowed them to become completely airborne ... **neither of the discussions estimate the amount of time it might have taken to evolve into being capable of becoming completely airborne ... not a part of the passage**

The passage suggests which of the following regarding the climbing ability of Archaeopteryx?

- A. Its ability to climb trees was likely hindered by the presence of incipient feathers on its forelimbs ... feathers on forelimbs is a part of the discussion in the second paragraph, when the author takes up the cursorial hypothesis ... the climbing ability is part of the first paragraph
- B. It was probably better at climbing trees than were its maniraptoran dinosaur cousins ... mathematical answer ... no such comparison is ever made ... the option infuses relative comparison where there is none
- C. It had certain physical adaptations that suggest it was skilled at climbing trees ... the passage explicitly mentions that the bird had no arboreal adaptations ... something that suggested opposite of the bird being a skilled climber ... 180 degrees
- D. Scientists have recently discovered fossil evidence suggesting it could not climb trees ... no such recent fossil evidence is mentioned in the passage ... the only fossil evidence mentioned in the passage suggests that the bird could not have both climbed and flown
- E. Scientists are uncertain whether it was capable of climbing trees ... lines 12 – 15 suggest that scientists were not fully convinced that the bird could climb trees ... primarily because of lacking certain arboreal adaptations. CORRECT

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 68)

Astronomers theorize that a black hole forms when a massive object shrinks catastrophically under its own gravity, leaving only a gravitational field so strong that nothing escapes it. Astronomers must infer the

Line 5 existence of black holes, which are invisible, from their gravitational influence on the visible bodies surrounding them. For example, observations indicate that gas clouds in galaxy M87 are whirling unusually fast about the galaxy's center. Most astronomers

Line 10 believe that the large concentration of mass at the galaxy's center is a black hole whose gravity is causing

**Comment [RN170]:** Kindly avoid mistaking this for a suggestion or prescription ... the sentence is a way of saying that this is the only way possible for the scientists to detect the existence of black holes ... this is a factual statement

the gas to whirl. A few skeptics have argued that the concentration of mass necessary to explain the speed of the whirling gas is not necessarily a black hole: the concentration in M87 might be a cluster of a billion or so dim stars.

Line 15

The same hypothesis **might have been** applied to the galaxy NGC 4258, but the notion of such a cluster's existing in NGC 4258 was severely undermined when

Line 20

astronomers measured the speed of a ring of dust and gas rotating close to the galaxy's center. From its speed, they calculated that the core's density is more than 40 times the density estimated for any other galaxy. If the center of NGC 4258 were a star cluster,

Line 25

the stars would be so closely spaced that collisions between individual stars would have long ago torn the cluster apart.

**Author:** NO OPINION (*purely a factual passage*)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces briefly what black holes are and the only way they can be detected. The author then introduces two examples, the latter one of which can confirm the presence of a black hole based on the data collected whereas the former cannot.

### QUESTIONS

The skeptics mentioned in the first paragraph would be most likely to agree with the astronomers mentioned in the same paragraph about which of the following statements concerning the galaxy M87?

- A. The speed of the gas whirling around the center of M87 is caused by a dense object that is not a black hole ... **this is exactly what the skeptics contended with the inference drawn by the astronomers of the same paragraph ... this is not a point both would agree on**
- B. The concentration of mass at the center of M87 is probably a large cluster of dim stars ... **this again was a suggestion put forth by the skeptics while disagreeing with the inference drawn out by the astronomers who suggested the center to be a black hole**

**Comment [RN171]:** Again the statement is not so much a suggestion as it is a measure of the likelihood of a possibility

- C. The presence of a black hole at the center of M87 is the **most** (superlative - AVOID) likely explanation for the speed of the gas whirling about the galaxy's core ... **again this is something the skeptics disagree on with the astronomers ... they say it could be a large cluster of dim stars**
- D. The speed of the gas whirling around the center of M87 is caused by a large concentration of mass at the core of M87 ... **CORRECT ... the two (skeptics and the astronomers) disagree only on what the concentration of mass at the center could be ... they both agree that some mass concentration is needed for the gas to behave such**
- E. The gravitational influence of a star cluster would not be strong enough to account for the speed of the gas whirling around the core of M87 ... **lines 12 – 16 confirm that the basis of skeptics' argument is the fact that the speed of the gas whirling around the core can be explained by a star cluster ... this option is thus 180 degrees**

The passage asserts which of the following about the existence of black holes?

- A. Astronomers first speculated about the existence of black holes when they observed gas whirling around the center of a particular galaxy ... **this cause and effect relation is not at all inferable from the passage ... never does the passage imply that black holes were discovered as a result of observing gas whirling around the center of a particular galaxy**
- B. Evidence used to argue for the existence of black holes is indirect, coming from their presumed effects on other astronomical bodies ... **this is a paraphrase of what lines 4 – 7 have to say ... CORRECT ... word by word verified**
- C. Recent observations of certain astronomical bodies have offered conclusive proof about the existence of black holes ... **there are no recent observations in the passage as such ... the passage does not take issue with the EXISTENCE of black holes but with their accurate DETECTION**
- D. A considerable body of evidence suggests the existence of black holes, even though their behavior is not completely consistent with the laws of physics ... **laws of physics are not a part of the passage ... behavioural consistency is another thing that is not confirmed from the passage**
- E. **Many** (extreme – AVOID) astronomers are skeptical about certain recent evidence that has been used to argue for the existence of black holes ... **there is no recent evidence in the passage ... again the existence of black holes is not the issue in the passage ... their accurate detection is**

Which of the following, if true, would most clearly undermine the possible explanation for the whirling gas in M87 that is mentioned in the last sentence of the first paragraph?

- A. The stars in a star cluster at the center of M87 could exert a strong gravitational force without tearing the cluster apart ... **this option suggests that such a cluster can exist ... it strengthens rather than undermining the explanation**
- B. A cluster of stars at the center would preclude the existence of certain other astronomical phenomena that have been observed at the center of M87 ... **this is one good reason to rule out the cluster of stars at the center as a possibility ... hence weakens the explanation given. CORRECT**

- C. The stars within many existing galaxies, such as NGC 4258, are more closely spaced than are the stars within the core of M87 ... **this option too if anything suggests that the cluster at the center of the M87 galaxy can exist ... strengthens the explanation**
- D. Only one other galaxy has been observed to contain gas clouds whirling about its center as they do about the core of M87 ... **this information alone is irrelevant to explain what the center of the M87 galaxy might be composed of**
- E. The gravitational force of a cluster of a billion or so dim stars would be sufficient to cause a whirling ring of gas and dust to collect around the center of a galaxy ... **again suggests that the cluster of stars at the center is a viable possibility ... strengthens**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 69)

When the history of women began to receive focused attention in the 1970's, Eleanor Roosevelt was one of a handful of female Americans who were well known to both historians and the general public. Despite the evidence that she had been important in social reform circles before her husband was elected President and that she continued to advocate different causes than he did, she held a place in the public imagination largely because she was the wife of a particularly

Line 5

Line 10

influential President. Her own activities were seen as preparing the way for her husband's election or as a complement to his programs. Even Joseph Lash's two volumes of sympathetic biography, *Eleanor and Franklin* (1971) and *Eleanor: The Years Alone* (1972), reflected this assumption.

Line 15

Lash's biography revealed a complicated woman who sought through political activity both to flee inner misery and to promote causes in which she



passionately believed. However, she still appeared to  
Line 20 be an idiosyncratic figure, somehow self-generated not  
amenable to any generalized explanation. She  
emerged from the biography as a mother to the entire  
nation, or as a busybody, but hardly as a social type, a  
figure comprehensible in terms of broader social  
Line 25 developments.

But more recent work on the feminism of the post-  
suffrage years (following 1920) allows us to see  
Roosevelt in a different light and to bring her life into a  
more richly detailed context. Lois Scharf's *Eleanor*

Line 30 *Roosevelt*, written in 1987, depicts a generation of  
privileged women, born in the late nineteenth century  
and maturing in the twentieth, who made the  
transition from old patterns of female association to  
new ones. Their views and their lives were full of  
Line 35 contradictions. They maintained female social  
networks but began to integrate women into  
mainstream politics; they demanded equal treatment  
but also argued that women's maternal responsibilities  
made them both wards and representatives of the

Line 40 public interest. Thanks to Scharf and others,  
Roosevelt's activities—for example, her support both  
for labor laws protecting women and for appointments  
of women to high public office—have become  
intelligible in terms of this social context rather than as  
Line 45 the idiosyncratic career of a famous man's wife.

**Author: NO OPINION**

The passage is a pure description passage with no inputs from the author.

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author is neither disappointed nor ecstatic while taking us through the changes in the way Eleanor Roosevelt's life is looked at.

The author takes up the first two paragraphs to explain how Eleanor Roosevelt's life was understood less with regard to her own ideals and more with regard to her influence as a famous man's wife. The last paragraph introduces recent work that depicts Eleanor Roosevelt's contributions more in terms of the social context that had influenced her from the beginning.

**QUESTIONS**

The passage as a whole is primarily concerned with which of the following?

- A. Changes in the way in which Eleanor Roosevelt's life is understood ... **this is exactly what the passage as a whole is doing ... from the point of view of Joseph Lash and the public in general at the time of his book ... and then from the point of view of Scharf and other recent historians. CORRECT**
- B. Social changes that made possible the role played by Eleanor Roosevelt in social reform ... **it is not the social changes that allowed Eleanor Roosevelt to carry out her role in the social reforms as she did, but her own ideals that led her to take up the social causes**
- C. Changes in the ways in which historians have viewed the lives of American women ... **the passage is concerned with one Eleanor Roosevelt ... not all American women ... specific to general error**
- D. Social changes that resulted from the activities of Eleanor Roosevelt ... **the resultant social changes are not discussed in the passage at all**
- E. Changes in the social roles that American women (specific to general error) have played ... **social roles as such are never discussed in the passage ... let alone the changes**

The author indicates that, according to Scharf's biography, which of the following was **NOT** characteristic of feminists of Eleanor Roosevelt's generation?

- A. Their lives were full of contradictions ... **mentioned in lines 34 – 35**
- B. Their policies identified them as idiosyncratic ... **the idiosyncratic perception is not a part of Scharf's biography ... thus CORRECT**
- C. They were from privileged backgrounds ... **mentioned in lines 30 – 31**
- D. They held that women had unique responsibilities ... **mentioned in lines 38 – 40**
- E. They made a transition from old patterns of association to new ones ... **mentioned in lines 32 – 34**

Which of the following studies would proceed in a way most similar to the way in which, according to the passage, Scharf's book (which concentrates more on depicting the activities of Eleanor Roosevelt with regard to her social ideals) interprets Eleanor Roosevelt's career?

- A. An exploration of the activities of a wealthy social reformer in terms of the ideals held by the reformer ... **the exploration looks at the reformer's activities within a framework of his own ideals independent of any external influence (for instance the money owned). CORRECT**
- B. A history of the leaders of a political party which explained how the conflicting aims of its individual leaders thwarted and diverted the activities of each leader ... **this option has nothing to do with the source behind an activity carried out by a particular individual**
- C. An account of the legislative career of a conservative senator which showed his goals to have been derived from a national conservative movement of which the senator was a part ... **the account attributes the goals of the senator to a movement he was a part of rather than his own ideals that would have been shaped because of the kind of environment he grew up in**
- D. A biography of a famous athlete which explained her high level of motivation in terms of the kind of family in which she grew up ... **this biography links her motivation to her environment rather than her own ideals that might have influenced her more ... the whole point of Schafer's study is to isolate the individual from all external influences and study his/her activities in light of the individual's own ideals**
- E. A history of the individuals who led the movement to end slavery in the United States which attributed the movement's success to the efforts of those exceptional individuals ... **the study in Schafer's book is not about accurate attribution, but about addressing or highlighting the correct source of one's efforts towards a particular cause**

The author cites which of the following as evidence against the public view (her activities were a result of her influence as a famous man's wife) of Eleanor Roosevelt held in the 1970's?

- A. She had been born into a wealthy family ... **this has not been used as evidence for anything in the passage ... moreover, the option has little to do with suggesting that her own ideals were behind her activities**
- B. Her political career predated the adoption of women's suffrage ... **women's suffrage is not part of the passage and neither is the timeline of her political career**
- C. She continued her career in politics even after her husband's death ... **this piece of information is not part of the passage ... out of scope**
- D. She was one of a few female historical figures who were well known to historians by the 1970's ... **this piece although true has not been used as evidence for anything**
- E. Her activism predated her husband's presidency and her projects differed from his ... **both portions of this option are confirmed from lines 4 – 8 of the passage. CORRECT.**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 70)

Social learning in animals is said to occur when direct or indirect social interaction facilitates the acquisition of a novel behavior. It usually takes the form of an experienced animal (the demonstrator) performing a behavior such that the naïve animal (the observer) subsequently expresses the same behavior sooner, or more completely, than it would have otherwise. One example of social learning is the acquisition of preferences for novel foods.

**Comment [RN172]:** The introduces us with the generic definition of what constitutes social learning ...

Some experiments have suggested that among mammals, social learning facilitates the identification of beneficial food items, but (CONTRAST WORD) that among birds, social learning helps animals avoid toxic substances. For example, one study showed that when red-wing blackbirds observed others consuming a colored food or a food in a distinctly marked container and then becoming ill, they subsequently avoided food associated with that color or container. Another experiment showed that house sparrows consumed

**Comment [RN173]:** Notice how through the use of the contrast word the author is able to narrow down to discussing / studying the behaviour among a specific group – BIRDS. Notice that the second paragraph begins with this contrast word ...

less red food after they observed others eating red food that was treated so as to be noxious. Studies on non-avian species have not produced similar results, leading researchers to speculate that avian social learning may be fundamentally different from that of

mammals.

But (CONTRAST WORD) Sherwin's recent experiments with domestic hens do not support the notion that avian social learning

**Comment [RN174]:** The contrast word here (at the beginning of the succeeding paragraph) shifts the focus of the social learning behaviour from avoiding toxic behaviour to recognizing palatable foods ... through this paragraph the author intends to show us that the behaviour on birds is not limited to avoiding toxic novel foods ...

necessarily facilitates aversion to novel foods that are noxious or toxic. Even when demonstrator hens

Line 30 reacted with obvious disgust to a specific food, via vigorous head shaking and bill wiping, there was no evidence that observers subsequently avoided eating that food. Sherwin's research team speculated that ecological or social constraints during the evolution of

Line 35 this species might have resulted in there being little benefit from the social learning of unpalatability, for instance, selective pressures for this mode of learning would be reduced if the birds rarely encountered noxious or toxic food or rarely interacted after eating

Line 40 such food, or if the consequences of ingestion were minimal. In a related experiment, the same researchers showed that if observer hens watched demonstrator hens react favorably to food of a particular color, then observer hens ate more food of

Line 45 that color than they ate of food of other colors. These results confirmed that avian species can develop preferences for palatable food through social learning.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author defines and introduces the concept of social learning in animals. The author is then seen discussing experiments that have studied the social learning behaviour in birds. Though the second paragraph shows the concept to be useful for its participants (the birds) in learning only one kind of behaviour (i.e. avoiding novel foods), the third paragraph takes on some recent experiments that also present evidence of preferential behaviour (particularly for palatable foods).

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss the

- A. techniques used in certain experiments on social learning in birds ... **the techniques as such are only mentioned in the passage ... a discussion of techniques implies a more elaborate and detailed layout of the techniques, for example, explaining why the techniques were applied explicitly in the manner that they were applied in ... moreover, the techniques are not the main focus of the passage ... the results or what the experiments imply is**
- B. reasons for the differences between social learning in birds and in mammals ... **the reasons behind the difference in behaviour (or even the behaviour in birds for that matter) are not a part of the passage**
- C. question of how social learning manifests itself in birds ... **both the second and the third paragraph may be connected via this answer option ... in both the paragraphs, this is what the author is doing ... studying the social learning behaviour in birds. CORRECT**
- D. basis for a widespread belief about a difference in behavior between birds and mammals ... **'widespread belief' is something not confirmed from the passage ... the difference is only briefly mentioned in the beginning of the second paragraph ... its basis or foundation is never a part of the passage**
- E. possible reasons why birds may or may not learn from each other in a particular way ... **the passage takes just one sentence (lines 33 – 41) to address the reasons and even the reasons mentioned there are for a specific kind of bird (hens). The reasons there are not generalized onto the entire birds species ... moreover, this is not the main issue that the passage addresses**

According to the passage, which of the following is true of the experiments on domestic hens conducted by Sherwin's research team?

- A. Only a small number of observer hens appeared to learn to avoid food that was demonstrated by other hens to be noxious ... **lines 29 – 33 mention that there was no evidence that observer hens learn to avoid foods that are noxious or toxic ... this however, does not translate quantitatively as to the number of hens that learnt to avoid the novel food**
- B. Observer hens ingested food preferentially only after numerous instances of witnessing demonstrator hens preferentially ingest that type of food ... **nothing in the passage supports that the observer hens had to witness a multiple number of times before the behaviour could be learnt**
- C. Observer hens appeared unable to recognize when demonstrator hens found a particular food especially palatable ... **this is exactly opposite of what the experiments on hens in the second paragraph concluded ... they were seen to develop preferences for palatable food through social learning which means they were able to recognize their demonstrator hens finding a particular food palatable ... 180 degrees answer**
- D. Demonstrator hens reacted adversely to ingesting certain novel foods ... **can be confirmed from lines 29 – 33 of the passage ... word for word verified. CORRECT**



- E. Demonstrator hens altered their behavior less obviously in response to noxious foods than in response to highly palatable foods ... **Sherwin's experiment was not about studying the behaviour of demonstrator hens as much as it was about how conveyable their message was to the observer hens ... although the passage does tell us that they reacted with OBVIOUS disgust in response to consuming toxic food, their response to highly palatable food is not mentioned in the passage to draw the above comparison**

**It can be inferred that the author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements regarding the results of the recent experiments conducted by Sherwin's research team?**

- A. The experiments demonstrate that social learning in avian species facilitates the identification of noxious or toxic foods ... **180 degrees ... the experiment suggested the exact opposite of what this option has to say ... the first sentence of the third paragraph says it out explicitly**
- B. The experiments suggest that social learning has made avian species less adept than nonavian species at learning to prefer beneficial foods and avoid noxious and toxic foods ... **the experiment as per the passage concerns hens and only hens ... the experiment has nothing to comment on the behavioural observation in non-avian species**
- C. The experiments undermine the notion that **most (superlative - AVOID)** avian species have evolved in environments where there is little benefit to the social learning of unpalatability ... **this would imply that the experiment supports the notion that birds do not develop preferences via social learning ... 180 degrees ... moreover, the experiment is about hens and hens alone without any generalization on to the bird species as a whole ... specific to general error**
- D. The experiments suggest that the acquisition of food preferences in avian species is largely unaffected by social learning ... **the experiment confirms (through experimentation on hens) that avian species can develop preferences for palatable food through social learning (last sentence of the passage) ... thus 180 degrees**
- E. The experiments show that social learning in avian species can promote the preferential consumption of beneficial foods but do not support the claim that social learning in avian species promotes the avoidance of noxious or toxic foods ... **the last sentence of the passage confirms the first part of this answer option and the first sentence of the third paragraph confirms the latter half of this answer option. CORRECT**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 71)

Carotenoids, a family of natural pigments, form an

important part of the colorful signals used by many animals. Animals acquire carotenoids either directly (from the plants and algae that produce them) or indirectly (by eating insects) and store them in a variety of tissues. Studies of several animal species have shown that when choosing mates, females prefer males with brighter carotenoid-based coloration.

**Comment [RN175]:** This sort of forms the foundation on which the main theme of the passage is built ... the passage goes forward to discuss views on how and why the carotenoid-based coloration would be meaningful in the context of mate selection

Owens and Olson hypothesize that the presence of carotenoids, as signaled by coloration, would be meaningful in the context of mate selection if carotenoids were either rare or required for health.

The conventional view is that carotenoids are meaningful because they are rare: healthier males can forage for more of the pigments than can their inferior counterparts. Although (CONTRAST WORD) this may be true, there is growing evidence that carotenoids are meaningful also because they are required: they are used by the immune system and for detoxification processes that are important for maintaining health. It may be that males can use scarce carotenoids either for immune defense and detoxification or for attracting females (... author's opinion).

**Comment [RN176]:** Notice how the contrast word creates an imaginary boundary line in the passage ... above the line is all factual information that the author knows of and has mentioned ... below the line is the author presenting his own input/take on the factual information he has brought forth.

Males that are more susceptible to disease and parasites will have to use their carotenoids to boost their immune systems, whereas males that are genetically resistant will use fewer carotenoids for fighting disease and will advertise this by using the pigments for flashy display instead.

**Comment [RN177]:** The author directs our attention briefly to the fact there is now evidence to suggest that carotenoids are not just important because they are required ... the author then presents his own suggestion or proposition as to how the requirement fact explains the carotenoids' meaning in mate selection ... this is the author's opinion ... the author is seen speculating here

**Author:** OPINION (suggestive in nature)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage introduces the concept of carotenoid-based coloration being an important part of mate selection in animals. The author shares a hypothesis that lays down two independent conditions for carotenoids to be meaningful participants in mate selection. Stating the conventional view, the author puts forth his own speculation, basing it on recent upcoming evidence

### QUESTIONS

Information in the passage suggests that which of the following is true of carotenoids that a male animal uses for detoxification processes?

- A. They were not acquired directly from plants and algae ... **the author mentions two ways of obtaining carotenoids however, never classifies one of the ways in which carotenoids are obtained as specific to the ones used for detoxification**
- B. They cannot be replenished through foraging ... **replenishment of carotenoids is not a part of the passage**
- C. They cannot be used simultaneously to brighten coloration ... **lines 20 – 22 clearly mention that carotenoids can be used either for detoxification or for coloration but not for both simultaneously ... thus inferable. CORRECT**
- D. They do not affect the animal's susceptibility to parasites ... **susceptibility to parasites if anything is at most connected to the animal's immune system in the passage ... the passage clearly mentions that carotenoids used for detoxification also improve the immune system**
- E. They increase the chances that the animal will be selected as a mate ... **the chances of the animal to get selected depend on how brightly coloured the carotenoids make the animal appear ... the ones used for detoxification cannot confirm this answer option**

The passage suggests that relatively bright carotenoid-based coloration is a signal of which of the following characteristics in males of certain animal species?

- A. Readiness for mating behaviour ... **readiness (implying maturity) for any behaviour is not a part of the passage**
- B. Ability to fight ... **engaging in combat is never mentioned in the passage**
- C. Particular feeding preferences ... **coloration is never seen to signal any feeding preferences**
- D. Recovery from parasite infestation ... **bright coloration does not imply that the animal has just recovered from a parasite infestation**
- E. Fitness as a mate ... **lines 23 onwards imply that fitter the animal (i.e. genetically stronger its immune system), brighter its carotenoid coloration ... and of course we are talking of the significance of carotenoid coloration in mate selection, hence CORRECT**

According to the “conventional view” referred to in the highlighted text of the passage, brighter carotenoid-based coloration in certain species suggests that an individual

- A. lives in a habitat rich in carotenoid-bearing plants and insects ... **it is not the location in which a carotenoid-based brighter coloured male lives but its greater ability to forage for more of carotenoid pigments**
- B. has efficient detoxification processes ... **detoxification is not a part of the conventional view**
- C. has a superior immune system ... **the immune system is something that contributes to the health of an animal ... the conventional view supports the carotenoids to be meaningful in mate selection because they're rare**
- D. possesses superior foraging capacity ... **lines 13 – 16 confirm that it is the foraging capacity that the conventional view infers from the carotenoid-based coloration. CORRECT**
- E. is currently capable of reproducing ... **reproduction capability is never taken up in or inferred from the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 72)

Many **politicians, business leaders, and scholars** discount the role of public policy and emphasize the role of the labor market when explaining employers' maternity-leave policies, arguing that prior to the passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of 1993, **employers were already providing maternity leave in response to the increase in the number of women workers**. Employers did create maternity-leave programs in the 1970's and 1980's, but not as a purely voluntary response in the absence of any government mandate. In 1972, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) ruled that employers who allowed leaves for disabling medical conditions must also allow them for maternity and that failure to do so would

**Comment [RN178]:** This is the view held by the highlighted lot ... this is their opinion.

**Comment [RN179]:** This forms the basis or more accurately the premise of the highlighted lot's argument ... through this they tend to justify what they believe is true. Till this point the author puts forth the highlighted lot's argument.

Line 15 constitute sex discrimination under the Civil Rights Act of 1964. As early as 1973, a survey found that 58 percent of large employers had responded with new maternity-leave policies. Because the 1972 EEOC ruling was contested in court, the ruling won press

Line 20 attention that popularized maternity-leave policies. **Yet** (CONTRAST WORD)

**perhaps** because the Supreme Court later struck down the ruling, politicians and scholars have failed to recognize its effects, assuming that employers adopted maternity-leave policies in response to the growing

Line 25 feminization of the workforce.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage should not be confused for a negative tone passage. The author does not criticize the highlighted lot for their belief, only shows that it is not entirely true, putting forth the most likely reason behind their believing so.

**The passage introduces the view of a certain lot and has the author presenting evidence or presenting a case to show that their opinion is not entirely true**

### QUESTIONS

**It can be inferred that the author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about government policy?**

- A. Government policy is generally unaffected by pressures in the labor market ... **there is never any connection made between pressures in the labor market and the government making a policy as a result of that pressure ... 'pressures in the labor market' is not a part of the passage**
- B. The impact of a given government policy is generally weakened by sustained press attention ... **the passage does not suggest that the ruling of 1972 weakened in its effect ... such an inference is never drawn ... sustained press attention is not a part of the passage**
- C. It is possible for a particular government policy to continue to have an impact after that policy has been eliminated ... **lines 20 – 25 confirm that even after the ruling was struck down its impact remained; however, the impact was confused to be solely because of feminization of the workforce ... thus inferable. CORRECT**

**Comment [RN180]:** Notice how the contrast word shift the focus of the passage from showing that the highlighted lot is misguided to presenting a possible reason for why they've formed their view as such

**Comment [RN181]:** Although this may seem like a suggestion forwarded by the author to explain why the highlighted lot discounts the role of public policy, in the context of the passage as a whole this is more like presenting the high likelihood or chances of a possibility. OPINIONS (using words like maybe or perhaps) by authors are more explicit in nature in that they have a prescriptive tone attached to them. The word maybe or perhaps in opinions carry an obligatory tone with them where their meaning becomes synonymous to that of the word 'ought'. This may have been the opinion if the sole purpose of the passage is to look for an explanation for the highlighted lot's belief ...

- D. A given government policy can be counterproductive when that policy has already unofficially been implemented ... **the passage has nothing that may be construed as counterproductive ... nor does the passage deal with any unofficial implementation**
- E. The impact of a given government policy is generally weakened when the ruling is contested in court ... **again the strength of impact as such of either the ruling of 1972 or the act of 1993 is never taken up as a variable to be studied for the factors that affect it**

The passage suggests that the relationship between the view of the author with respect to maternity leave policy prior to passage of the FMLA and the view of the politicians, business leaders, and scholars mentioned in the highlighted text can best be characterized by which of the following statements?

- A. They agree that both the 1972 EEOC ruling on maternity-leave policy and the increasing feminization of the workplace had an impact on employers' creation of maternity-leave programs but disagree about the relative importance of each factor ... **the highlighted lot, as confirmed from the passage (mainly line 22), completely overlooks the EEOC ruling**
- B. They agree that the EEOC ruling on maternity-leave policy had an initial impact on employers' creation of maternity-leave programs but disagree over whether the Supreme Court's striking down of the EEOC ruling weakened that impact ... **again the highlighted lot, as confirmed from the passage (mainly line 22), completely overlooks the EEOC ruling ... moreover, the weakening of the impact is not a part of the passage at all**
- C. They agree that creating maternity-leave programs was a necessary response to the needs of the increasing number of women workers but disagree about whether maternity should be classified as a disabling medical condition ... **no such disagreement is confirmed from the passage ... the classification is never an issue**
- D. They agree that employers created maternity-leave programs prior to passage of the FMLA but disagree about employers' motivations for doing so ... **lines 6 – 11 confirm that they both agreed on the former but disagreed on what actually caused the employers to implement maternity-leave programs. CORRECT ... this actually is the main contention of the author that he presents a case for.**
- E. They agree that employers created maternity-leave programs prior to passage of the FMLA but disagree about how widespread those programs were ... **the passage is never concerned with the geographical reach of the programs**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 73)

Customer loyalty programs are attempts to bond



customers to a company and its products and services by offering incentives—such as airline frequent flyer programs or special credit cards with valuable

Line 5 benefits—to loyal customers. In support of loyalty programs, companies often invoke the “80/20” principle, which states that about 80 percent of revenue typically comes from only about 20 percent of

customers. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, this profitable 20 percent are not

Line 10 necessarily loyal buyers, especially in the sense of exclusive loyalty. Studies have demonstrated that only about 10 percent of buyers for many types of frequently purchased consumer goods are 100 percent loyal to a particular brand over a one-year period.

Line 15 **Moreover (relay point to the contrast word)**, 100-percent-loyal buyers tend to be light buyers of the product or service. “Divided loyalty” better describes actual consumer behavior, since customers typically vary the brands they buy. The reasons for this behavior are fairly straightforward:

Line 20 people buy different brands for different occasions or for variety, or a brand may be the only one in stock or may offer better value because of a special deal. Most buyers who change brands are not lost forever; usually, they are heavy consumers who simply prefer

Line 25 to buy a number of brands. Such multi-brand loyalty means that one company’s most profitable customers will probably be its competitors’ most profitable customers as well.

Line 30 **Still (transition word)**, advocates of loyalty programs contend that such programs are beneficial because the costs of serving

**Comment [RN182]:** The contrast word introduces the author raising strong and serious objection to foundation on which the customer loyalty program is built ... to attack the very core around which a corporate strategy is built is to imply that the strategy is flawed and will most likely not serve its purpose ... the statement in context of the passage is thus a CRITICISM ...

**Comment [RN183]:** Another piece of fact that invokes further criticism ...

**Comment [RN184]:** The author takes up more justifications of the loyalty program with the intention to show that even they are based on flawed assumptions ...

highly loyal customers are lower, and because such loyal customers are less price sensitive than other customers. It is true that when there are start-up costs, such as credit checks, involved in serving a new

Line 35 customer, the costs exceed those of serving a repeat customer. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, it is not at all clear why the costs of serving a highly loyal customer should in principle be different from those of serving any other type of repeat customer. The key variables driving cost are

Line 40 size and type of order, special versus standard order, and so on, not high-loyalty versus divided-loyalty customers. As for price sensitivity, highly loyal customers may in fact come to expect a price discount as a reward for their loyalty.

**Comment [RN185]:** Further criticism / objections raised to the program ...

**Author:** OPINION (criticism by the author ...)

**Tone:** NEGATIVE

The passage introduces an idea / principle (the “80/20”) that the companies build their customer loyalty programs on. The author then takes up the rest of the passage criticizing and proving that the basic assumptions governing the principle are unwarranted. The author presents facts in support of his stance.

The passage is criticism only ... no suggestion!

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. question the notion that customer loyalty programs are beneficial ... **by attacking the foundation on which the customer loyalty programs are built, this is what the author is trying to raise objection to ... CORRECT**
- B. **examine (neutral tone answer)** the reasons why many customers buy multiple brands of products ... **the reason for this behaviour is mentioned in one line in lines 20 – 22. There is no examination of these reasons in the passage ... an examination is an objective analysis in detail with the intention to interpret something ... nothing of this sort is done with the reasons given in lines 20 – 22**
- C. **propose (implies neutral tone)** some possible alternatives to customer loyalty programs ... **the passage does not see the author suggesting anything, certainly not how to better go about the strategy and definitely no alternatives**

- D. **demonstrate (neutral tone answer)** that most customers are not completely loyal to any one brand of product or service ... **although the passage does see the author doing this with the help of some factual data ... however, this is done to prove another point ... it is done to substantiate the criticism put forth by the author**
- E. **compare (neutral tone answer)** the benefits of customer loyalty programs with those of other types of purchase incentive programs ... **there are no other types of purchase incentives in the passage ... the passage is not a comparison one**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 74)

In a 1984 book, Claire C. Robertson argued that, before colonialism, age was a more important indicator of status and authority than gender in Ghana and in Africa **generally (... age > gender)**. British colonialism imposed European-

Line 5

style male-dominant notions upon more egalitarian local situations to the detriment of women generally, and gender became a defining characteristic that weakened women's power and authority (... **gender > age**).

**Comment [RN186]:** This is pre-colonialism; original version

**Comment [RN187]:** This is post-colonialism; original version

**Till now the author assumes that pre-colonialism gender influence (Ghana) = gender influence (Kenya)**

Line 10

Subsequent **research** in Kenya convinced Robertson that she had **overgeneralized** about Africa. Before colonialism, gender was more salient in central Kenya than it was in Ghana, although age was still crucial in determining authority. In contrast with Ghana, where women had traded for hundreds of years and achieved

Line 15

legal majority (not unrelated phenomena), the evidence regarding central Kenya indicated that

women were legal minors and were sometimes treated as male property, as were European women at that time. Factors like strong patrilinearity and patrilocality,

Line 20 as well as women's inferior land rights and lesser involvement in trade, made women more dependent on men than was generally the case in Ghana.

However, since age apparently remained the overriding principle of social organization in central

***The author now believes that pre-colonialism gender influence (Ghana) < gender influence (Kenya)***

Line 25 Kenya, some senior women had much authority. Thus, Robertson revised her hypothesis somewhat, arguing that in determining authority in precolonial Africa age was a primary principle (... age still > gender) that superseded gender to varying degrees depending on the situation.

**Comment [RN188]:** This is pre-colonialism; revised version

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage presents an author's initial view which changes in response to her subsequent research in relevant spheres. The passage then presents her revised thought.

The passage is purely narrative in tone; factual in nature.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. present evidence **undermining (negative tone – implied criticism)** a certain hypothesis ... there is no hypothesis in the passage ... the book presents her view not hypothesis. The evidence that this option speaks of is the author's (Robertson's) own research
- B. describe a particular position and its subsequent modification ... this is exactly what the beginning and the end of the passage do ... the middle portion provides a reason for the modification → encapsulates the revision of her viewpoint. CORRECT.
- C. discuss two contrasting viewpoints regarding a particular issue ... there is only one viewpoint in the entire passage ... that of the author's (Robertson's)

- D. describe how a social phenomenon varied by region ... **although true, this option is at best secondary to the main reason the author has written the passage ... this option helps explain why the viewpoint was revised ... this being the main purpose leaves the author mentioning Robertson's viewpoint without a function in the passage ... this answer option does not also encapsulate the revision of her viewpoint**
- E. **evaluate (signifies a balanced tone)** an assumption widely held by **scholars (not mentioned) ... the passage does not confirm if the scholars (if any) share Robertson's view**

The passage indicates that Robertson's **research in Kenya** caused her to change her mind regarding which of the following?

- A. Whether age was the prevailing principle of social organization in Kenya before colonialism ... **the passage does not compare age with gender before colonialism in her research but compares gender influence in Ghana and that in Kenya before colonialism**
- B. Whether gender was the primary determinant of social authority in **Africa** generally before colonialism ... **firstly the research involved Kenya and a bit of comparison with the situation in Ghana, and for this reason the word Africa is not justified ... secondly she never concluded that she had wrongly interpreted that age was the primary determinant before colonialism**
- C. Whether it was only after colonialism that gender became a significant determinant of authority in Kenyan society ... **exactly ... the research was all about Kenya, saying that gender was already significant (although age was an overriding determinant) in determining authority and thus colonialism may have added little to the significance of gender in determining authority in Kenya. CORRECT.**
- D. Whether age was a crucial factor determining authority in **Africa** after colonialism ... **again the word Africa cannot be supported by research text that is confined to Ghana and Kenya ... the overgeneralization was not regarding age being the primary determinant but over the fact that pre-colonialization gender had varying influence on determining authority**
- E. Whether British colonialism imposed European-style male-dominant notions upon local situations in Ghana ... **this was never a part of her research**

The passage suggests that after conducting the research mentioned in the highlighted text, but not before, Robertson would have agreed with which of the following about women's status and authority in Ghana?

- A. Greater land rights and greater involvement in trade made women in precolonial Ghana less dependent on men than were European women at that time ... **the status of the Ghanaian women is never compared with that of the European women pre and post colonialism**
- B. Colonialism had a greater impact on the status and authority of Ghanaian women than on Kenyan women ... **post her research she was of the idea that gender influence (on status and authority) was more in Kenya than it was in Ghana pre-colonialism ... which means that post-colonialism (that is when gender takes over age) Ghana would**

have faced a greater impact than Kenya (where gender was already pretty influential as compared to Ghana) ... thus inferable. CORRECT

- C. Colonialism had less of an impact on the status and authority of Ghanaian women that it had on the status and authority of other African women ... the only two places the research in the highlighted yellow talks of are Ghana and Kenya ... there is nothing tying the Ghanaian women with the women in rest of Africa
- D. The relative independence of Ghanaian women prior to colonialism was unique in Africa ... this answer option is 180 degrees ... before the research the passage mentions Robertson to have overgeneralized meaning that she's taken the case of pre-colonialism Ghana and assumed it represent all of Africa
- E. Before colonialism, the status and authority of Ghanaian women was similar to that of Kenyan women ... this is something that Robertson would have believed before revision and before conducting her research

The author of the passage mentions the status of age as a principle of social organization in precolonial central Kenya in the highlighted text most likely in order to (purpose question)

- A. indicate that women's dependence on men in precolonial Kenya was not absolute ... exactly ... the portion is said with relevance to the situation in Kenya ... after mentioning how women were already gender wise discriminated against at certain instances, the author mentions the highlighted portion to show indicate that age still had enough influence to get some elder women independent and with much authority ... CORRECT
- B. contrast the situation of senior women to that of less senior women in precolonial Kenyan society ... age being the overriding principle does little to contrast the situation of the two groups mentioned in the answer option
- C. differentiate between the status and authority of precolonial Kenyan women and that of precolonial Ghanaian women ... whatever the highlighted portion says is true for both Ghanaian and Kenyan women ... thus there is no differentiation as such
- D. explain why age superseded gender to a greater extent in precolonial Kenya than it did elsewhere in Africa ... Kenya is never compared with places elsewhere in Africa
- E. identify a factor that led Robertson to revise her hypothesis about precolonial Africa ... age was never a factor that led her to revise her stance, it was relative influence of Gender in Ghana and Kenya

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 75)

Some historians contend that conditions in the United States during the Second World War gave rise to a



dynamic wartime alliance between trade unions and

the African American community, **an alliance that**

Line 5 **advanced the cause of civil rights.** They conclude that

the postwar demise of this vital alliance constituted a

lost opportunity for the civil rights movement that

followed the war. Other **scholars, however (CONTRAST WORD),** have

portrayed organized labor as defending all along the

Line 10 relatively privileged position of White workers relative

to African American workers. Clearly, **these two**

**perspectives are not easily reconcilable, but (CONTRAST WORD) the**

historical reality is not reducible to one or the other.

**Unions faced a choice between either maintaining the**

Line 15 **prewar status quo or promoting a more inclusive**

**approach that sought for all members the right to**

**participate in the internal affairs of unions, access to**

**skilled and high-paying positions within the**

**occupational hierarchy, and protection against**

Line 20 **management's arbitrary authority in the workplace.**

**While union representatives often voiced this inclusive**

**ideal, in practice unions far more often favored**

**entrenched interests.** The accelerating development of

the civil rights movement following the Second World

Line 25 War **exacerbated the unions' dilemma, forcing trade**

**unionists to confront contradictions in their own**

**practices.**

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage starts off with the introduction of two opposing viewpoints and reveals that the actual facts conform to neither of the two viewpoints. The author then provides all factual data of what actually happened with the intention to guide the reader, who's on

**Comment [RN189]:** Viewpoint # 1 ... trade unions benefitted the African American community

**Comment [RN190]:** Emphasizes the 180 degree nature of the nest stance he's about to present ... that of the scholars ... this is viewpoint # 2 ... trade unions had nothing to contribute to the cause of the African American community

**Comment [RN191]:** Confirms the 180 degree or the paradoxical nature of the two viewpoints in relation to one another.

**Comment [RN192]:** ... this fact sides with viewpoint #2 and thus against viewpoint #1 ... thus acts as a POTENTIAL WEAKENER for viewpoint #1 and a POTENTIAL STRENGTHENER for viewpoint #2

**Comment [RN193]:** ... the fact that they confronted contradictions bears witness to the fact that the unions did not just defend the privileged position of the white workers ... this fact thus sides with viewpoint #1 and thus against viewpoint #2 ... thus acts as a POTENTIAL WEAKENER for viewpoint #2 and a POTENTIAL STRENGTHENER for viewpoint #1

course to assess the two viewpoints, by providing him with a framework on which to proceed on or the relevant data that the evaluator should consider while making a judgement on the two viewpoints presented.

The passage is purely narrative in tone; factual in nature.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. providing a context within which to evaluate opposing viewpoints about a historical phenomenon ... **exactly ... the passage shares each of the two parties' viewpoints and then presents historical facts that might provide one with a strengthening/weakening framework to evaluate the two viewpoints. CORRECT.**
- B. identifying a **flawed (negative tone)** assumption underlying one interpretation of a historical phenomenon ... **there is never any assumption in the passage, just viewpoints ... viewpoints are not necessarily synonymous with interpretation especially in the context of this passage ... plus there are two not one**
- C. **assessing (signifies a balanced tone)** the merits and weaknesses of a controversial theory about a historical phenomenon ... **the passage has not mention of any theory ... the word controversial is not confirmed from the context of the passage ... 'merits and weaknesses of a theory' take this answer way off track from what the passage has to say**
- D. discussing the historical importance of the development of a wartime alliance ... **the passage only mentions that one view sees this development as important with regard to the civil rights movement ... what exactly the importance is or why exactly was the alliance important is not part of the passage**
- E. **evaluating (signals balanced tone)** evidence used to support a particular interpretation of a historical phenomenon ... **the interpretation (if they refer to the viewpoints) are two and the passage never has evidence that supports one over the other ... rather supports neither**

According to the passage, the historians and scholars mentioned in the highlighted texts disagree about the

- A. contribution made by organized labor to the war effort during the Second World War ... **contribution to the war effort is not a part of the passage at all ... the passage has nothing to do with the war as such**
- B. issues that union members considered **most (superlative – AVOID)** important during the Second World War ... **the passage is about how beneficial the alliance was to the plight of the African Americans not about the issues at the time of the second world war**
- C. relationship between unions and African Americans during the Second World War... **the historians are shown to believe that there actually was an alliance and that it actually helped advance the cause of civil rights ... the scholars on the other end believed that there never was such a thing called alliance and that the unionists were primarily interested in guarding their own privileges ... thus CORRECT**

- D. effect of the Second World War on the influence of unions in the workplace ... **the passage mentions that conditions during the second world war gave rise to the dynamic alliance ... however, the effects of the war on the alliance as such are not discussed in the passage ... nor is there a debate between the two regarding the effect the war had on the influence of unions in the workplace (something else that is not mentioned in the passage)**
- E. extent to which African Americans benefited from social and political changes following the Second World War ... **the passage never shows one group to be saying that the African Americans benefitted to a certain degree and the other one disagreeing on the statistic ... social and political changes are not part of the passage**

Which of the following best describes the purpose of the first sentence (highlighted) in the second paragraph in the passage?

- A. To summarize a situation confronted by unions during the Second World War ... **CORRECT. The sentence serves to present the reader with reality ... an accurate picture of what actually happened**
- B. To summarize the role of unions in the workplace during the Second World War ... **the role / function of unions in the workplace (as in what purpose they served) is not a part of the passage at all**
- C. To explain the philosophy supported by **most (superlative – AVOID)** unions during the Second World War ... **the sentence presents a reality fact and not something that someone believed in ... the sentence is not a philosophy**
- D. To assess the effect of the growth of the civil rights movement on unions during the Second World War ... **the civil rights movement is mentioned in the passage not discussed ... certainly not the effects it had on unions**
- E. To present a **criticism (negative tone)** of the unions' approach to representing workers during the Second World War ... **the line presents two approaches that the unions had the option of ... the sentence does not single down to a particular approach that the unionists followed**

Which of the following best summarizes the opinion of the author (this doesn't mean that the author had an opinion of the passage, this simply asks what possibly could the viewpoint of the author be) **of the passage regarding the two points of view presented in the first paragraph?**

- A. Neither point of view reflects the views of certain African American historians on trade unions during the Second World War ... **African American historians are not even a part of the passage ... let alone what they feel**
- B. Neither point of view reflects the full complexity of the historical reality ... **this answer option accurately reiterates what lines 12 – 13 have to say in the passage. CORRECT.**
- C. One point of view is based on more reliable research than is the other ... **there is never a comparison drawn between the reliability of the research backing the view. None of views is shown to be backed by any sort of research**

- D. Both points of view have **misinterpreted (implies a negative tone of the author)** recent research on trade unions during the Second World War ... **any sort of recent research is not a part of the passage, nor is it inferable from the passage**
- E. The two points of view can be readily harmonized into a coherent interpretation ... **this option implies that the two points of view are reconcilable ... opposite of what lines 11 – 12 have to say ... 180 degrees answer**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 76)

First identified in 1969, komatiites are Earth's oldest known volcanic rocks and contain three times as much magnesium as do most volcanic rocks. This chemical composition suggests that komatiites formed from the hottest lava known ever to have erupted: a high concentration of magnesium changes the physical properties of lava so that unusually high temperatures would be required for the lava to exist as a liquid.

Komatiites' discovery was surprising in light of then-current geological theories about magmas, molten rock that forms in the Earth's mantle (the layer beneath the crust) and composes volcanic lava eruptions. Prior to 1960, geologists Bowen and Hess disagreed over whether or not the very high

temperatures needed to produce magmas rich in magnesium could have existed on Earth. Hess suggested that the presence of water, probably released from minerals decomposing in the Earth's mantle, might have meant that a high-magnesium

magma could have existed at a lower temperature. But Bowen showed experimentally that the high

temperatures were indeed necessary. By 1960, it was generally accepted that volcanic rocks with such high levels of magnesium could not exist, and thus the discovery of komatiites changed geologists' assumptions about the characteristics of the Earth's mantle around the time of the formation of komatiites, between 2.5 and 4 billion years ago.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces Komatiites along with their unusual high concentration of magnesium. The author then explains why their discovery was significantly surprising at the time.

The passage is purely factual in nature ... notice the narrative nature of the passage.

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following most accurately describes the organization of the passage?

- A. Two divergent views of a scientific phenomenon are reconciled (signifies positive tone and opinion by the author) ... the entire passage has just one view ... that of the geologists before the discovery of the Komatiites ... there are no two divergent views in the passage as such
- B. A phenomenon is described and its scientific significance is discussed ... perfect match ... the discovery is listed and its implications (as to why they were surprising at the time) are discussed. CORRECT
- C. The discovery of a scientific phenomenon is traced (chronology answer - AVOID) and its implications for further research are suggested ... the passage is a purely factual one ... no suggestions
- D. A long-standing scientific theory is examined and recently discovered evidence is shown to support it ... there is no theory in the passage at all ... nor is the passage an analysis / examination passage ... the passage is more narrative in nature ... the evidence (if the option were to imply the discovery of Komatiites) is neither recent in context of the passage nor is it supportive
- E. The ways in which a particular geological phenomenon is exceptional (extreme as per the passage) are detailed and classified ... a phenomenon is an event or an occurrence, which in the case of the passage becomes the discovery of Komatiites ... the implications of the phenomenon is described not the 'ways' ... moreover, the passage does not classify anything anywhere

Information in the passage suggests which of the following concerning the Earth's mantle 2.5 to 4 billion years ago (the time of formation of Komatiites as per the passage)?

- A. It contained magmas that were more significantly affected by the decomposition of minerals than are current-day magmas ... **according to the passage, a magma affected by the decomposition of minerals (yielding water) tends to exist at a lower temperature than had it not been affected ... this option therefore implies that magma 2.5 to 4 billion years ago was cooler than current day magma ... 180 degrees**
- B. It contained a lower proportion of water that it contains today ... **the presence of water is only suggested as a possible reason supporting the existence of high magnesium magma at lower temperatures ... a suggestion later ruled out ... we can thus infer nothing about the relative proportion (percentage) of water then and now**
- C. Its characteristics were accurately described by both Bowen and Hess ... **Bowen and Hess were of the view that magma with high concentrations of magnesium was impossible to exist at any point of time in the earth's history ... a view that was challenged once Komatiites were discovered ... again 180 degrees**
- D. Its temperature was sufficiently high to produce magmas with high magnesium content ... **Bowen is seen to show that high temperatures were indeed necessary for high magnesium magma to exist ... and Komatiites are confirmed to be the oldest dated somewhere at 2.5 to 4 billion years old ... thus the option is inferable. CORRECT**
- E. Its total magnesium content then was roughly equivalent to its magnesium content today ... **nothing in the passage allows for such an inference ... the total magnesium content is never discussed**

Which of the following most accurately states the main point of the passage?

- A. Komatiites provide information about rates of volcanic eruption between 2.5 and 4 billion years ago ... **the rates of volcanic eruptions are not a part of the passage ... forget linking them to the information Komatiites provide in the passage**
- B. Komatiites provide information about how the physical properties of lava in the Earth's past compare with those of current-day lava ... **the only physical property that can be inferred from Komatiites is that the lava was the hottest ever to have existed ... apart from that there is no other physical property that can be compared with that of the current day lava**
- C. Komatiites provide evidence that undermines Bowen's experimental conclusions regarding the temperatures at which lava exists as a liquid ... **Bowen though not of the view that such high concentration rocks ever had existed in the mantle, concluded from his experiments that extremely high temperatures were indeed necessary for the existence of such high concentration ... in conjunction with this conclusion, the passage takes the discovery of Komatiites to suggest the temperature of the mantle 2.5 to 4 billion years ago ... there is thus no undermining seen as such**
- D. Komatiites provide evidence that has changed geologists' ideas about the characteristics of the Earth's mantle between 2.5 and 4 billion years ago ... **lines 22 onwards (till the end of the passage) confirm that this answer option is an exact paraphrase. CORRECT**



- E. Komatiites provide evidence that water in the Earth's mantle may have reduced the temperature required for lava to exist as a liquid ... **water reducing the temperature was a suggestion put forth by Hess and later ruled out by Bowen's experimentation ... the passage never connects the reduced temperature of the earth's mantle with the state of existence of lava in the mantle**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 77)

**While (CONTRAST WORD)** acknowledging that there are greater

employment opportunities for Latin American women

in cities than in the countryside, social science

theorists have continued to argue that urban migration

Line 5 has unequivocally hurt women's status. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, the

effects of migration are more complex than these

theorists presume. **For example**, effects can vary

depending on women's financial condition and social

class. **Brazilian women** in the lowest socioeconomic

Line 10 class have relatively greater job opportunities and job

security in cities than do men of the same class (... **+ve effect of urban migration**),

**although (CONTRAST WORD)** there is no compelling evidence that for

these women the move to the city is a move out of

poverty (... **-ve effect of urban migration**). Thus, these women may improve their status

Line 15 in relation to men but at the same time may

experience no improvement in their economic

standing.

**In addition (relay point)**, working outside the home, which is more

common in urban than in rural areas, helps women in

Line 20 the lowest socioeconomic class make contacts to

extend exchange networks—the flow of gifts, loans, or

**Comment [RN194]:** The first contrast word introduces the opinion of the social science theorists

**Comment [RN195]:** May be construed as a mild opinion in itself or as a signaller that an opinion is to follow later on in the passage ... the presence of the contrast word 'however' and 'for example' confirm that this line does form the main idea on which the author is going to expand on later in the passage, thus regardless of whether one considers this a fact or an opinion this is why the author has written this passage.

**Comment [RN196]:** An exemplification of the point the author's trying to make in lines 6 – 7.

child care from those who currently have access to resources to those who do not (... **+ve effect**). **Moreover (relay point)**, poor women working in urban areas actively seek to cultivate long-

Line 25 term employer-employee relations. When an emergency arises that requires greater resources than an exchange network can provide, these women often appeal for and receive aid from their wealthy employers (... **+ve effect**). **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, the structure of many poor

Line 30 women's work—often a labor force of one in an employer's home—makes it difficult for them to organize to improve their economic conditions in general (... **-ve effect**).

Line 35 Not surprisingly, then, Latin American women in the lowest socioeconomic class differ in their opinions about the effects of urban migration on their lives. Some find urban living, with access to electricity and running water, an improvement and would never return to the countryside. Others, disliking the

Line 40 overcrowding and crime, would return to the countryside if there were work opportunities for them there. **Thus**, urban life has had both negative and

positive impacts on women's lives. In general, urban migration has not provided economic prosperity or

Line 45 upward mobility for women in the lowest socioeconomic class, despite their intelligent and energetic utilization of the resources available to them (... **author's stance / opinion**).

**Author: OPINION**

*Notice how the author is more directly involved in the point that he's trying to make. The author makes direct comment on the view held by the theorists ...*

**Tone: BALANCED** (assess, evaluate, critique)

**Comment [RN197]:** Used here to conclude the main point that the author expanded on throughout the passage ...

The author introduces the viewpoint of the theorists about the effects that urban migration carries with it and goes on to comment (take a judgemental call) on the validity of that belief. The author is then seen evaluating the effects of urban migration to arrive at his own conclusion (... opinion) regarding the relationship between migration and its effect on women ... the passage has a balanced tone followed by an opinion.

### QUESTIONS

In the first paragraph, the author refers to the experiences of Brazilian women most probably in order to (purpose question)

- A. support an earlier assertion made by social science theorists about the effects of urban migration ... **the contrast word in line 5 confirms that the author is non-supportive of the views of the theorists ... 180 degrees answer**
- B. provide an example of one area in which urban migration has **failed (strong in context of the passage)** to improve Latin American women's lives ... **the example does see them improving their status in relation to men, therefore it is not an example of complete utter failure but of the fact that judging the effect of the phenomenon might be complex**
- C. substantiate the claim that the effects of urban migration cannot be easily characterized ... **exactly ... the case of the Brazilian women is part of the exemplification of the assertion on lines 6 – 7. CORRECT**
- D. illustrate the effect that urban migration has had on the economic status of Latin American women ... **the passage never implies that the experience of the Brazilian women is representative of the Latin-American women population ... specific to general error**
- E. compare the effect that urban migration has had on the economic status of Latin American women with its effect on the economic status of Latin American men ... **again the example of Brazilian women is not representative of entire Latin America ... moreover, the example of Brazilian women compares job opportunities and job securities not economic status**

Which of the following best summarizes the main point of the passage?

- A. Although Latin American women disagree about the effects urban migration has had on their lives, they agree that migration has provided them with greater opportunities for stable employment outside the home ... **the passage is not about highlighting points that the Latin American women agree or disagree on ... the Latin American women are mentioned to hold varying opinions in the passage and not agree on any one single thing**
- B. Although urban migration has improved the quality of life for Latin American women, it has weakened the social support systems that these women enjoyed in rural communities ... **social support systems enjoyed in the rural communities are not part of the passage**
- C. The effects that urban migration has had on Latin American women's lives are complex (... **the author's assertion in lines 6 – 7**) and are best evaluated in light of a range of

issues concerning Latin American women's overall quality of life ... **the rest of the passage is an evaluation of the effects keeping in mind the issues affecting the overall quality of life ... perfect match. CORRECT.**

- D. The effects of urban migration in Latin America are different for men than they are for women because of the relatively greater job opportunities and job security enjoyed by women in urban areas ... **the passage is not about comparing the effects of migration on men with that on women ... the effects on men are not even mentioned in the passage**
- E. Urban migration has led to an increasing disparity between the economic prosperity of Latin American women in the lowest socioeconomic classes and that of women in the higher socioeconomic classes ... **any such disparity is not part of the passage ... women of the higher socioeconomic classes is not part of the passage at all**

**The author mentions which of the following as a disadvantage of urban employment for Latin American women in the lowest socioeconomic group?**

- A. It is difficult for these women to obtain reliable, long-term employment ... **measure of employment in terms of reliability is not part of the passage**
- B. It is difficult for these women to organize effectively in order to obtain better wages ... **this option is confirmed word by word from lines 29 – 33. CORRECT**
- C. It is difficult for these women to find employers who are supportive when emergencies arise ... **employers are generally described as being supportive to their cause in case of an emergency ... such difficulty is not confirmed from the passage**
- D. The structure of their jobs makes it difficult for these women to participate in exchange networks ... **the only ability arising out of job structure mentioned in the passage is the inability to organize effectively because of the nature of the job ... not what the option mentions**
- E. Working in urban areas makes these women more vulnerable to health problems than they would be in rural areas ... **health problems as described in this option are not a part of the passage**

**The author of the passage would most likely agree that the opinions of the Latin American women discussed in the third paragraph are influenced by the**

- A. fact that urban life has provided them with greater opportunities for upward mobility than did rural life ... **their opinions (which are varying / mixed) are influenced by a mix of positive and negative effects of urbanization ... this option is only positive**
- B. relative importance they place on the benefits of urban exchange networks in comparison to those of rural networks ... **rural exchange networks are not a part of the passage discussion ... benefits of exchange networks is one of the factors influencing their opinions**
- C. relative importance they place on the conveniences and drawbacks of urban life in comparison to those of rural life ... **lines 37 – 42 confirm that their opinions are mainly influenced by the relative weightage they assign to each benefit and drawback of urban migration ... thus CORRECT**

- D. difference in the effects of urban migration on women of higher and lower socioeconomic classes ... **urban migration effects on women of higher socioeconomic classes are not a part of the passage**
- E. difference in the effects of urban migration on men and women of the same social and economic class ... **urban migration effects on men are not a part of the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 78)

The following was excerpted from material written in 1988.

For over a decade the most common policy advice given to developing countries by international development institutions has been to copy the export-oriented path of the newly industrializing countries, the celebrated NICs. These economies—Brazil, Hong Kong, Mexico, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan—burst into the world manufacturing market in the late 1960's and the 1970's; by 1978 these six economies, along with India, enjoyed unequaled growth rates for gross national product and for exports, with exports accounting for 70 percent of the developing world's manufactured exports. It was, therefore, not surprising that dozens of other countries attempted to follow their model, yet no countries—with the possible exceptions of Malaysia and Thailand—have even approached their success. In "No More NIC's," Robin Broad and John Cavanagh search for the reasons behind these failures, identifying far-reaching changes in the global economy—from synthetic substitutes for commodity exports to unsustainable levels of foreign

debt—as responsible for a glut economy offering little room for new entrants. Despite these changes, the authors maintain, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund—the foremost

Line 25 international development institutions—have continued to promote the NIC path as the way for heavily indebted developing countries to proceed. And yet the futility of this approach should, according to the authors, be all too apparent; so many years into a

Line 30 period of reduced growth in world markets.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author begins the passage with the most common advice doled out by the International Development institutions to the developing countries. The author gives a brief historic background that might help one to understand the reason behind such advice. The author shares the reality about the poor success from the advice and shares two author's take on why the reality stands so. The authors are seen accusing the World Bank and the IMF of advocating the approach despite its apparent futility.

### QUESTIONS

Given the information in the passage, which of the following is a true statement about the NIC's?

- A. Their economic success among developing countries has been exceeded only by the successes of Malaysia and Thailand ... **the passage leaves out these two countries while making an assertion about the rest saying none even approached the success of the NICs ...this gives no reason to infer that the two overshot the success of the NICs**
- B. By 1978 they produced 70 percent of the world's manufactured exports ... **lines 10 – 12 confirm that their produce was 70 percent of the developing world's total manufactured produce and NOT of the global manufactured produce**
- C. In the late 1970's, their growth rates for gross national product were among the highest in the world ... **lines 8 – 10 confirm this answer option word by word ... the superlative highest is confirmed from the word 'unequaled' (line 9) in the passage. CORRECT**
- D. In recent years their development has been heavily subsidized by major international development institutions ... **no comment has been made on their current status in the passage**



- E. They received conflicting policy advice from international development institutions in the late 1960's and the 1970's ... **no such conflicting advice is confirmed from the context of the passage**

**The author of the passage most clearly implies that Broad and Cavanagh disagree with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund about which of the following?**

- A. The ways in which the global economy has changed in recent years ... **neither of the two are seen presenting any sort of remark on how the global economy has changed in the recent years**
- B. The causes of the unsustainable levels of foreign debt that the developing countries have incurred in recent years ... **foreign debt and its causes is not taken up as a topic of discussion in the passage especially between these two**
- C. The level of foreign debt that should be maintained by developing countries ... **there is never any level of foreign debt that should be maintained that is proposed by either one of the two**
- D. The degree to which international development institutions should monitor the growth of developing countries ... **growth monitoring (on part of anyone) is not a part of the passage**
- E. The degree to which heavily indebted developing countries should emphasize exports in their overall economic strategy ... **lines 22 onwards confirm that the authors take issue with how the two institutions continue to promote the NIC path, which is to copy the export-oriented path of the six economies, as the way for the heavily indebted countries to proceed further ... thus the above is inferable. CORRECT**

**The author mentions Malaysia and Thailand in order to** (purpose question)

- A. acknowledge the appearance of implausibility in a broad claim ... **the author is never seen acknowledging / accepting the improbability in anything in the passage ... the passage doesn't exactly consist of anyone's broad claim**
- B. concede the possible existence of counter-examples to a generalization ... **the author mentions evidence that starts with the word 'NO' (line 14) ... the author then mentions the two as exceptions ... exceptions are always something that can run counter to the generalization being claimed ... thus inferable. CORRECT**
- C. offer additional evidence in support of a disputed conclusion ... **the two are introduced as exceptions and not as additional evidence ... the passage doesn't have any disputed conclusion**
- D. illustrate the broad applicability of a hypothesis ... **there is no hypothesis in the passage ... 'broad applicability' is not confirmed from the passage**
- E. admit the limited scope of a standard analysis ... **the author is never seen admitting to anything in the passage ... the scope of an analysis is never gauged in the passage**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 79)

Anole lizard species that occur together (sympatrically) on certain Caribbean islands occupy different habitats: some live only in the grass, some only on tree trunks, and some only on twigs. These species also differ

Line 5 morphologically: grass dwellers are slender with long tails, tree dwellers are stocky with long legs, and twig dwellers are slender but stubby-legged. What is

striking about these lizards is not that coexisting species differ in morphology and habitat use (such differences are common among closely related sympatric species) but that the same three types of habitat specialists occur on each of four islands:

Line 10 Puerto Rico, Cuba, Hispaniola, and Jamaica. Moreover, the Puerto Rican twig species closely resembles the twig species of Cuba, Hispaniola, and Jamaica in morphology, habitat use, and behavior. Likewise, the specialists for other habitats are similar across the islands.

The presence of similar species on different islands

Line 20 could be variously explained. An ancestral species might have adapted to exploit a particular ecological niche on one island and then traveled over water to colonize other islands. Or this ancestral species might have evolved at a time when the islands were

Line 25 connected, which some of these islands may once have been. After the islands separated, the isolated lizard populations would have become distinct species

**Comment [RN198]:** The author takes up the first paragraph to present a build up to the main theme of the passage ... the author introduces all participants ... namely the three participants and the striking unusual observation about them

while also retaining their ancestors' niche adaptations.

Both of these scenarios imply that specialization to

Line 30 each niche occurred only once. Alternatively, each specialist could have arisen independently on each of the islands.

If each type of specialist evolved just once, then similar specialists on different islands would be closely

Line 35 related. Conversely, if the specialists evolved independently on each island, then a specialist on one island would be more closely related to other types of anoles on the same island—regardless of their ecological niches—than it would be to a similar

Line 40 specialist on a different island. Biologists can infer how species are related evolutionarily by comparing DNA sequences for the same genes in different species. Species with similar DNA sequences for these genes are generally more

Line 45 closely related to each other than to species with less similar DNA sequences. DNA evidence concerning the anoles led researchers to conclude that habitat specialists on one island are not closely related to the same habitat specialists elsewhere, indicating that

Line 50 specialists evolved independently on each island.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author begins with a striking observation related to a species inhabiting a particular environment. The author sets out to explain the explain the framework that one would need to follow were he to go about speculating the evolutionary history of the species involved in the discussion. The author shows towards the end how scientists solved this problem to accurately determine the evolutionary route most probably taken by the species

**Comment [RN199]:** The author in the second paragraph presents two main possibilities that may explain HOW the strikingly unusual results have turned up in the manner that they have ... one scenario suggests that each specialist evolved just once and the other scenario suggests that each specialist could have arisen independently on each island

**Comment [RN200]:** The author then lays out in this paragraph outcomes or results that one would expect if one were able to measure the degree to which two participants are related to each other. At this point the author is one step away from solving the problem about which of the two scenarios presented earlier is the more plausible one. All the author needs now is a way to determine relatively how related a particular being is with the test subjects

**Comment [RN201]:** The author enlightens us of a way to determine the degree of relatedness between two beings ... the author then presents how the scientists pieced together all the information that the author has presented above along with the DNA analysis to successfully pick out the exact scenario that the members of the lizard species might have gone through

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- A. describe some unusual features of anole lizard species ... **the features (as in their tail length, size, body shape etc.) of the lizards as such is never described or implied as usual ... the passage is not a description of their features → something that are given just one sentence in the passage**
- B. account for a particular type of behavior found among anole lizard species ... **to account for means to provide explanation or justification for ... the behaviour (any) of the lizards is never taken up in the passage ... the passage is more about the startling observations regarding similarity in their habitat adaptations despite any contact**
- C. contrast two types of evidence that have been used to support a particular hypothesis concerning anole lizard species ... **there is no hypothesis in the passage ... the only evidence is regarding the DNA analysis and it does not see any classification**
- D. explain how researchers resolved a particular scientific question concerning anole lizard species ... **the entire build-up of the first three paragraphs aims to help the reader understand in the final paragraph how the researchers narrowed down to the most plausible explanation. CORRECT**
- E. examine different explanations for a particular trait common to certain anole lizard species ... **trait is more like a behaviour which is not a subject of study in the passage ... the passage rather than examining the two explanations in the second paragraph, holds them as equally potential explainers till the last paragraph where the author with the use of evidence narrows down on one**

Which of the following best describes the purpose of the sentence in the highlighted text ("What is ... Jamaica")?

- A. It raises a question about why coexisting anole lizard species occupy the different types of habitats mentioned in the first sentence ... **nothing in the passage prior to or in the highlighted portion suggests that coexisting lizards must typically occupy the same habitat and hence raises the question implied in the answer choice**
- B. It introduces a fact about anole lizard species that the passage will go on to explore ... **exactly what the highlighted portion does ... introduces the striking observation ... the explanations for which are explored further down in the passage. CORRECT**
- C. It identifies a particular aspect of anole lizard behavior that distinguishes anoles from other lizard species ... **other lizard species are not a part of the passage ... forget a comparison between them and the anoles**
- D. It explains why one aspect of anole lizard species' habitat use has been difficult to account for ... **the highlighted is not so much an explanation to something as much as it is an introducer of some surprising observation ... the explanation(s) comes later in the passage**
- E. It points out a surprising relationship between morphology and habitat use that is explained in the concluding paragraph ... **the surprise factor is not the one said in this option ... a surprise relationship between morphology and habitat is more like saying although the habitat would suggest type A morphology, the lizards exhibit type B ...**

nothing of this sort is mentioned in the passage ... moreover the concluding paragraph explains how the question raised was resolved rather than explaining the relationship itself

It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following is true of the Cuban tree-dwelling anole lizard and the Jamaican tree-dwelling anole lizard?

- A. They share a morphology characterized by stocky bodies and long legs ... **lines 13 – 18 confirm that they share the same morphology and line 6 confirms the morphology. CORRECT**
- B. They have bodies that are relatively slender compared to their stubby legs ... **slender and stubby legged are the twig dwellers as confirmed from lines 6 – 7**
- C. They differ significantly from one another in size ... **the same types of habitat specialists closely resemble each other as per the passage in morphology, behaviour and habitat use ... lines 13 – 18**
- D. They differ significantly from one another in behavior and habitat use ... **the same types of habitat specialists closely resemble each other as per the passage in morphology, behaviour and habitat use ... lines 13 – 18**
- E. They are genetically closely related to one another ... **lines 46 – 50 confirm that the same habitat specialists are not genetically closely related to one another ... a reason for believing that they evolved independently**

The passage suggests that if a grass-dwelling anole lizard species evolved on one island and then traveled over water to colonize a second island, the grass-dwelling anoles on the two islands would eventually

- A. develop **very (extreme) different DNA sequences ... the question describes a case of a common ancestor or the scenario where they evolve / specialize only once ... such members as per the passage are to resemble closely genetically (same DNA sequences) ... 180 deg**
- B. develop into different species that are more distantly related to each other than to tree- and twig-dwelling anoles on their own islands ... **the passage never implies that two different species share the same ancestor ... the question presents the case where the members have evolved / specialized only once ... under such a scenario it is highly unlikely that they develop into different species**
- C. come to differ **significantly (extreme) from one another in habitat use ... nothing in the passage suggests that they should differ in habitat use ... rather the passage suggests the contrary**
- D. develop into different, but closely related, species ... **exactly ... the passage implies that a common ancestor would mean they are genetically more closely related. CORRECT**
- E. evolve **significant (extreme) morphological differences ... the passage does not imply that a common ancestor would mean they develop morphological differences ... after all they've evolved or specialized only once (on the first island that is)**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 80)

Citing the fact that the real gross domestic product

(GDP) per capita was higher in 1997 than ever before,

some journalists have argued that the United States

economy performed ideally in 1997. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, the real

Line 5 GDP is almost always higher than ever before; it falls

only during recessions (... *neutral towards argument*). One point these journalists

overlooked (... *negative tone towards argument*) is that in 1997, as in the twenty-four years

immediately preceding it, the real GDP per capita grew

nearly one-half percent a year more slowly than it had

Line 10 on average between 1873 and 1973. **Were the 1997**

**economy as robust as claimed, the growth rate of real**

**GDP per capita in 1997 would have surpassed the**

**average growth rate of real GDP per capita between**

**1873 and 1973 (... *opinion by the author*)** because over fifty percent of the

Line 15 population worked for wages in 1997 whereas only

forty percent worked for wages between 1873 and

1973. If the growth rate of labor productivity (output per hour of goods and services) in 1997 had equaled

its average growth rate between 1873 and 1973 of

Line 20 more than two percent, then, given the

proportionately larger workforce that existed in 1997,

real **GDP per capita in 1997 would have been higher**

**than it actually was (... *negative tone towards argument*)**, since output is a major factor in

GDP. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, because labor productivity grew by

Line 25 only one percent in 1997, real GDP per capita grew

more slowly in 1997 than it had on average between

1873 and 1973.

**Comment [RN202]:** Premise of the journalists' argument ...

**Comment [RN203]:** The journalists' conclusion ... their argument may thus be summarized as 'GDP per capita higher than ever before' → 'US economy performed ideally'

**Comment [RN204]:** Notice how the author here talks of real GDP and not real GDP per capita ... for this reason I may not call this statement or fact a potential weakener.

**Comment [RN205]:** Notice the judgemental nature of the author's claim. The reason I call it judgemental is that there could have been several reasons why the growth rate did not equal what it was 24 years ago, maybe it was nearing saturation (as the economy neared the optimum efficiency level)

**Comment [RN206]:** Again the author is sceptical of the fact that the economy performed ideally as deduced by the journalists



**Author:** **OPINION** (... judgemental in nature)

**Tone:** **BALANCED** (neutral + negative ... thus, we'll settle for balanced) ... *assess, evaluate, critique*

The author takes the first few lines to present an argument (premise + conclusion) advanced by 'some journalists'. The author then follows this up with making a judgemental call on their line of reasoning. The author attacks the bridge through which the journalists in the passage bind their premise to their conclusion by throwing his judgement to it. The passage is ultimately seen subjectively attaching a value to the argument made by the journalists (which is evaluation) rather than criticizing or pointing out a flaw.

*Notice how the author in the passage brings in his own set of additional information. Comparing the growth rate with what it was exactly 24 years earlier as well as the concept of labor productivity is additional information that the author is bringing in. Had such information been introduced by the journalists and had it then been proven wrong as it has been in the passage, then the passage would take on more of a criticism course. The author simply brings in additional information which he himself accordingly explains in the passage with the intention to test out the argument. This is more of evaluation rather than criticism which is more of a direct attack.*

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- A. **comparing (implies no opinion)** various measures used to assess the performance of the United States economy in 1997 ... **the passage as a whole is concerned with assessing the argument NOT the performance of the economy ... various measures implies a minimum of three measures ... the passage only presents the author's assessment**
- B. **providing evidence (red flag - AVOID)** that the performance of the United States economy in 1997 was similar to its performance between 1873 and 1973 ... **it is pretty clear that the passage does just the opposite ... 180 degrees answer**
- C. **evaluating an argument concerning the performance of the United States economy in 1997 ... this is exactly what the author is doing ... he presents their argument and later judges it in terms of how much value it holds. CORRECT.**
- D. **examining (implies no opinion)** the consequences of a **popular misconception (strongly negative)** about the performance of the United States economy in 1997 ... **consequences implies future outcomes ← not confirmed from the passage ... nothing in the passage suggests that the economy believed to have performed ideally in 1997 is a 'popular misconception' ... if anything this is a viewpoint that some journalists hold**
- E. **supporting (positive tone)** an assertion made by journalists about the performance of the United States economy in 1997 ... **the author is seen doing anything BUT supporting what the journalists have to say about how the US economy performed in 1997 ... lines 10 – 14 pretty much confirm that this option is 180 degrees**

According to the passage, which of the following is true of the average rate at which real GDP per capita grew in the twenty-four years immediately before 1997 (i.e. between 1973 and 1997)?

- A. It was less than it had been between 1873 and 1973 because only forty percent of the population worked for wages between 1873 and 1973 ... **the connection implied here is not confirmed from the passage. The forty percent statistic is not attributed as a cause or an explanation to why the average growth rate was higher between 1873 and 1973 but as a surprise element questioning the validity of the claim that the economy was pretty robust in 1997 ... wrong attribution of cause and effect**
- B. It was less than it had been between 1873 and 1973 because labor productivity grew less between 1973 and 1997 than it had between 1873 and 1973 ... **the growth rate of labor productivity is only discussed in the year 1997 and not in the period between 1973 to 1997 ... this option mentions something unconfirmed from the passage**
- C. It was less than it had been between 1873 and 1973 as a result of an increase in the percentage of the population earning wages during these years ... **again the percentage of workers earning wages is not attributed as a cause in the passage but as a reason to suspect otherwise to what the journalists have to claim**
- D. It was less than the average rate at which real GDP per capita grew between 1873 and 1973 ... **lines 6 – 10 are a direct re-iteration of this answer option has to say. CORRECT.**
- E. It was less than the rate at which real GDP per capita grew in 1997 ... **GDP per capita growth rate in 1997 is not a part of the passage**

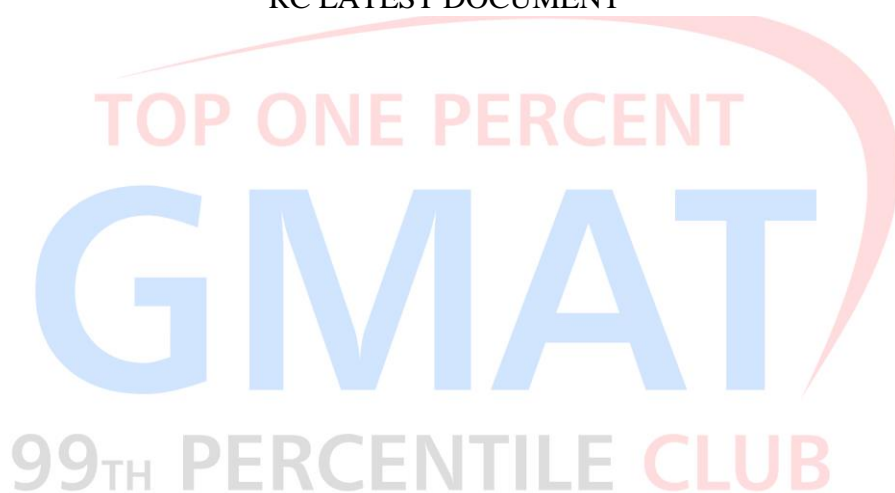
It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following is the reason that the author faults the journalists referred to in the first sentence of the passage?

- A. They believe that the real GDP per capita in 1997 was higher than the real GDP per capita had ever been before ... **this answer option is a fact that even the author agrees to – as confirmed from lines 4 – 5. The fact as such is doubted in the passage**
- B. They argue that the rate at which real GDP per capita grew in 1997 was faster than the average rate at which it had grown between 1873 and 1973 ... **lines 6 – 7 bear witness to the fact that the rate of growth of the per capita GDP is a notion that the journalists missed out on.**
- C. They overestimate the effect of labor productivity on the real GDP per capita in 1997 ... **consideration of the effect of labor productivity on the real GDP per capita is not shown as a fact that the journalists have brought up in the passage**
- D. They overestimate the amount by which real GDP per capita in 1997 surpassed real GDP per capita in earlier years ... **the accuracy of measurements (be it any of them) is never an issue in the passage ... the wrong inference from having missed out on some data is**
- E. They fail to consider the real GDP per capita in 1997 within an appropriate historical context ... **the journalists cite the absolute value of the per capita GDP in arriving at a conclusion on the performance of the US economy ... they have not considered that the rate of growth compared to a certain historical period might suggest otherwise. CORRECT.**

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## PART II

RC LATEST DOCUMENT



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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 81)

During the nineteenth century, occupational information about women that was provided by the United States census—a population count conducted each decade—became more detailed and precise in response to social changes. Through 1840, simple enumeration by household mirrored a home-based agricultural economy and hierarchical social order: the head of the household (presumed male or absent) was specified by name, whereas other household members were only indicated by the total number of persons counted in various categories, including occupational categories. Like farms, most enterprises were family-run, so that the census measured economic activity as an attribute of the entire household, rather than of individuals. The 1850 census, partly responding to antislavery and women's rights movements, initiated the collection of specific information about each individual in a household. Not until 1870 was occupational information analyzed by gender: the census superintendent reported 1.8 million women employed outside the home in "gainful and reputable occupations." In addition, he arbitrarily attributed to each family one woman "keeping house." Overlap between the two groups was not calculated until 1890, when the rapid entry of women into the paid labor force and social issues arising from industrialization

were causing **women's advocates and women statisticians** to press for more thorough and accurate accounting of women's occupations and wages.

Line 30

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author has simply penned down a description / explanation of how the census taking method has undergone changes during the nineteenth century. The second paragraph is also seen mentioning a few social changes in light of which the census methods evolved.

*Kind Note:* Notice how the passage does NOT have a single CONTRAST WORD. Such passages take you in one direction (unidirectional) alone. The passage here simply pick on the first line and lays out its description on a timeline.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) explain and **critique (signifies balanced tone ...)** the methods used by early statisticians ... **the option clearly does not capture, or rather has no mention of any sort of change that the census taking method underwent during the nineteenth century**
- (B) compare and contrast a historical situation with a current-day one ... **the passage is not a comparison or a contrast passage ... there is no mention of current day census taking procedures**
- (C) describe and explain a historical change ... **perfect ... the passage takes us through the changes that the census taking method underwent during the nineteenth century ... CORRECT**
- (D) discuss historical opposition to an established institution ... **the passage is never seen to bring up any sort of opposition ... it is not exactly clear what the 'established institution' refers to**
- (E) **trace the origin (chronology answer - AVOID)** of a contemporary controversy ... **the passage does not deal with any sort of controversy anywhere**

Each of the following aspects of nineteenth-century United States censuses is mentioned in the passage EXCEPT the

- (A) year in which data on occupations began to be analyzed by gender ... **mentioned in line 19 of the passage**
- (B) year in which specific information began to be collected on individuals in addition to the head of the household ... **mentioned in line 16 of the passage**
- (C) year in which overlap between women employed outside the home and women keeping house was first calculated ... **mentioned in line 25 of the passage**
- (D) way in which the 1890 census measured women's income levels and educational backgrounds ... **the passage merely states that the 1890's census measured women's**

income levels and educational backgrounds, however, there is no mention of the way in which this was done. **CORRECT**

- (E) way in which household members were counted in the 1840 census ... **mentioned in lines 5 through 12 of the passage**

The passage suggests which of the following about the "women's advocates and women statisticians" mentioned in the highlighted text?

- (A) They wanted to call attention to the lack of pay for women who worked in the home ... **the lack of pay for women working at home is not a part of the passage ... nor are the advocates and the statisticians seen lobbying for this cause**
- (B) They believed that previous census information was inadequate and did not reflect certain economic changes in the United States ... **lines 24 through 30 of the passage imply that rapid entry of women into paid labor force – an economic change – was not being reflected in the previous census information which is why they pushed for more thorough and accurate accounting ... thus CORRECT**
- (C) They had begun to press for changes in census-taking methods as part of their participation in the antislavery movement ... **their participation in the antislavery movement – something mentioned at the beginning of paragraph 2 – is neither inferred nor confirmed from the passage**
- (D) They thought that census statistics about women would be more accurate if more women were employed as census officials ... **neither the advocates nor the statisticians share any such opinion ... never are they seen lobbying for more women to be employed as census officials**
- (E) They had conducted independent studies that disputed the official statistics provided by previous United States censuses ... **the passage never shows them to have conducted any sort of studies as part of producing concrete proof that the official statistics were flawed**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 82)

The general density dependence model can be applied to explain the founding of specialist firms (those attempting to serve a narrow target market).

According to this model, specialist foundings hinge on

Line 5 the interplay between legitimation and competitive forces, both of which are functions of the density (total number) of firms in a particular specialist population.



Legitimation occurs as a new type of firm moves from being viewed as unfamiliar to being viewed as a

- Line 10 natural way to organize. At low density levels, each founding increases legitimation, reducing barriers to entry and easing subsequent foundings. Competition occurs because the resources that firms seek—customers, suppliers, and employees—are limited, but
- Line 15 as long as density is low relative to plentiful resources, the addition of another firm has a negligible impact on the intensity of competition. At high density levels, however, competitive effects outweigh legitimation effects, discouraging foundings. The more numerous
- Line 20 the competitors, the fiercer the competition will be and the smaller will be the incentive for new firms to enter the field.

*... the paragraph explains the applicability of the density dependence model ... passage is purely factual up till this point!*

**While (CONTRAST WORD)** several studies have found a significant correspondence between the density dependence

- Line 25 model and actual patterns of foundings, other studies have found patterns not consistent with the model. A possible explanation for this inconsistency is that
- legitimation and competitive forces transcend national boundaries, while studies typically restrict their
- Line 30 analysis to the national level. Thus a national-level analysis can understate the true legitimation and competitive forces as well as the number of foundings in an industry that is internationally integrated. Many

**Comment [RN207]:** As soon as the author is finished with giving us a brief of the density model and a definition cum description of two of its key terms (legitimation and competitive forces), he introduces a CONTRAST WORD to bring to light some studies / surveys that are inconsistent with the model followed by an explanation of a possible reason behind the inconsistent patterns observed

**Comment [RN208]:** This can be or cannot be construed as an opinion ... if this is something coming purely from the author's side it is an opinion ... a proposition ... however the language should be slightly different ... the line would have read → A possible explanation for this inconsistency COULD BE (instead of is) ... we'll thus settle for calling it an implied opinion by the author

industries are or are becoming international, and since

Line 35 media and information easily cross national borders, so should legitimization and its effects on overseas foundings. For example, if a type of firm becomes established in the United States, that information transcends borders, reduces uncertainties, and helps

Line 40 foundings of that type of firm in other countries. Even within national contexts, studies have found more support for the density dependence model when they employ broader geographic units of analysis—for example, finding that the model's operation is seen

Line 45 more clearly at the state and national levels than at city levels.

**Comment [RN209]:** Exemplification of the reason put forth by the author to explain the inconsistent pattern ...

**Author:** IMPLIED OPINION (*implied suggestion by the author*)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author takes up the first paragraph of the passage to explain the density dependence model and its application to explain founding of specialists firms. The author defines for the comfort of the reader some of the model's key terms (namely legitimization and competitive forces). The author takes up the second paragraph to present certain inconsistencies in the model application and goes on to explain the reason behind the inconsistent patterns. The author does in the entirety come across as someone trying to explain why the model is valid despite the inconsistent studies

The passage is purely factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, which of the following may account for the inconsistency between the general density dependence model and the evidence provided by certain studies of foundings?

- (A) Such studies have overemphasized the impact of preexisting firms on the establishment of new firms ... **the passage mentions that legitimization in reality transcends national and international borders, whereas the analysis in studies limit themselves within national borders. Because of this the impact of pre-existing firms might be underestimated as per the passage rather than be overemphasized ... 180 degrees**
- (B) Such studies have not focused strongly enough on the role of competition among newly established firms operating at the city and state levels ... **the inconsistent studies are**

the ones that have not taken into account the fact that legitimization and competitive forces may transcend local boundaries ... not focusing strongly enough on the two parameters within the local boundaries is not the issue with the studies as per the passage ... not focusing on the effect the two parameters may have from outside the local boundaries is

- (C) Such studies fail to differentiate among specialist firms with regard to the degree to which they deviate from familiar forms of organization ... the degree to which the firms might deviate from the familiar forms of organization ... which may also be construed as the degree of legitimization among the specialist firms is not the issue at all in the passage ... the passage nowhere implies that the model requires such differentiation
- (D) Such studies have not taken into account the fact that many industries are internationally integrated ... exactly ... lines 30 – 33 confirm that failing to take into account the international integration of an industry is failing to take into account that legitimization and competitive forces can transcend local boundaries and understate the effect by concentrating on the two parameters locally. CORRECT
- (E) Such studies have neglected to investigate firms that attempt to serve only a narrow target market ... nowhere does the passage imply that the studies were looking at the wrong data sample ... only that the effects of the two parameters were wrongly estimated

In the second paragraph, the author is primarily concerned with

- (A) noting various exceptions to a certain general finding ... firstly there is no 'general finding' in the passage ... a finding is more like a piece of information discovered as the result of some investigation ... the paragraph deals with explaining inconsistencies
- (B) examining the impact of one type of industry on another ... the paragraph does not present any sort of relative analysis of one industry over another ... the paragraph does not even mention a single industry ... forget two
- (C) proposing a possible explanation for an inconsistency ... this is exactly what the author is doing ... putting forth an explanation for the inconsistency observed in the studies. CORRECT.
- (D) providing specific examples of a particular phenomenon ... there is no phenomenon (an occurrence of an event) in the passage as such and the second paragraph certainly does not specific examples to it
- (E) defending the validity of a particular study's conclusions ... the author suggests an explanation for the inconsistency rather than proving that something stands valid ... the passage does not contain the conclusions of any particular study

The passage suggests that when a population of specialist firms reaches a high density level, which of the following is likely to occur?

- (A) Foundings will decline despite legitimization that has occurred in these industries ... lines 17 – 19 confirm this effect ... foundings will be discourages. CORRECT.
- (B) Increasing competition will encourage many firms to broaden their target market ... the expansion of the target market as such is never a part of the passage ... the target market at all times remains fixed

- (C) Competition for resources will become stabilized and thus foundings will be encouraged ... more the population, more is the competition which discourages foundings as per the passage, even though legitimation a lot more easier now ... stabalization of any sort is not a part of the passage
- (D) Many customers will abandon their loyalty to older firms as more innovative firms enter the market ... there is no evidence in the passage to suggest that the new firms entering are more innovative ... customer loyalty is not a part of the passage at all
- (E) Firms will begin to cross national borders in an attempt to gain a competitive advantage ... no such behaviour is either described in the passage or can be inferred from it

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) question (negative tone) the validity of an economic model ... the author pretty much does the opposite ... shows how the model is still valid despite some studies not agreeing to it ... 180 degrees
- (B) point out some inconsistencies within an economic model ... the passage explains the reason behind the inconsistencies, therefore the passage cannot be about pointing out inconsistencies
- (C) outline an economic model and suggest revisions to it ... the passage suggests no revisions at all to the model
- (D) describe an economic model and provide specific examples to illustrate its use ... this option does not encapsulate the inconsistent studies and the reason explaining them that the entire second para is dedicated to ... the examples that the passage does provide are not to illustrate the model's use
- (E) explain why an economic model remains valid despite inconsistent research results ... even though this is a no opinion answer choice, it does encapsulate the idea of the seemingly debatable opinion in the passage in line 27 ... at least the line 27 is a part of the main idea of the passage ... and this is what the passage in its entirety is doing. CORRECT. The first para is just introductory build up info ...

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 83)

In its 1903 decision in the case of Lone Wolf v.

Hitchcock, the United States Supreme Court rejected

the efforts of three Native American tribes to prevent

the opening of tribal lands to non-Indian settlement

Line 5 without tribal consent. In his study of the Lone Wolf

case, Blue Clark properly emphasizes the Court's

assertion of a virtually unlimited unilateral power of Congress (the House of Representatives and the Senate) over Native American affairs. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** he fails to

Line 10 note the **decision's** more far-reaching impact: shortly after Lone Wolf, the federal government totally abandoned negotiation and execution of formal written agreements with Indian tribes as a prerequisite for the implementation of federal Indian policy. Many

Line 15 commentators believe that this change had already occurred in 1871 when—following a dispute between the House and the Senate over which chamber should enjoy primacy in Indian affairs—Congress abolished the making of treaties with Native American tribes. But

Line 20 in reality the federal government continued to negotiate formal tribal agreements past the turn of the century, treating these documents not as treaties with sovereign nations requiring ratification by the Senate but simply as legislation to be passed by both houses

Line 25 of Congress. The Lone Wolf decision ended this era of formal negotiation and finally did away with what had increasingly become the empty formality of obtaining tribal consent.

**Author: NO OPINION**

There is no criticism or an opinion stated by the author at all in the passage. The author is not presenting his personal views in the passage, rather a matter of fact. Moreover, it cannot be debated that the decision / historical event did not have far reaching consequences ... a criticism is always something that one holds personally against someone / something ... more like a negative feeling towards something

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

Again there is no debated rebuttal or refutation or any negative feeling, just the presentation of a matter of FACT

**Comment [RN210]:** This is the main point as to why the passage was written and must directly / indirectly figure in the correct answer choice of the primary purpose question ... this is not what the author feels but what he notes as a matter of FACT ... this is not debatable

**Comment [RN211]:** The author from here on examines in detail the significance of the decision ... the significance that Clark has missed out on

The author notes that a historical decision (in the case of Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock) had more far reaching consequences than have been stated and examines the consequences to prove so

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, the congressional action of 1871 had which of the following effects?

- (A) Native American tribal agreements were treated as legislation that had to be passed by both houses of Congress ... **lines 19 – 25 confirm that the agreements now had to be passed as legislation without any ratification by the senate. CORRECT.**
- (B) The number of formal agreements negotiated between the federal government and Native American tribes decreased ... **the change in the number of formal agreements cannot be inferred from the context of the passage ... as to whether it increased or decreased**
- (C) The procedures for congressional approval and implementation of federal Indian policy were made more precise ... **such procedures have no mention in the passage ... if anything the passage suggests that congressional approval became more of a formality rather than becoming more precise**
- (D) It became more difficult for Congress to exercise unilateral authority over Native American affairs ... **on the contrary since tribal agreements were now treated as legislation to be passed by both houses of the senate without any ratification, one would say that it became rather easier for the government (not the congress) to exercise authority**
- (E) The role of Congress in the ratification of treaties with sovereign nations was eventually undermined ... **the passage is not about ratification of treaties with sovereign nations ... it is about a case's decision's far reaching impact ... congress role as the one in this option is not a part of the passage**

According to the passage, which of the following resulted from the Lone Wolf decision?

- (A) The Supreme Court took on a greater role in Native American affairs ... **there is no mention of an increase or a decrease or the degree of role played by the supreme court in native American affairs ... moreover, the passage talks of native American affairs with the federal government not all their affairs**
- (B) Native American tribes lost their legal standing as sovereign nations in their dealings with the federal government, but their ownership of tribal lands was confirmed ... **the native tribes are never mentioned to have any such sort of standing let alone having lost it ... the sovereign nations mentioned in the passage is in context of the US requiring to act as one when going over a treaty ... Sovereign nations always require senates to ratify all treaties ... ownership of tribal land was never confirmed**
- (C) The federal government no longer needed to conclude a formal agreement with a Native American tribe in order to carry out policy decisions that affected the tribe ... **this is exactly what lines 11 – 14 narrate as a result of the decision ... CORRECT**



- (D) The federal government began to appropriate tribal lands for distribution to non-Indian settlers ... **this is never mentioned as a consequence of the decision**
- (E) Native American tribes were no longer able to challenge congressional actions by appealing to the Supreme Court ... **no such consequence is mentioned in the passage**

The author of the passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) identifying similarities in two different theories ... **there are no theories ... only an analysis**
- (B) evaluating a work of scholarship ... **'evaluating' signifies a balanced tone and / or opinion by the author. This is a neutral tone passage.**
- (C) analyzing the significance of a historical event ... **this is exactly what the author is doing as he delves into the far reaching impact of the decision ... CORRECT**
- (D) debunking a revisionist interpretation ... **debunking means to expose the FALSENESS of ... negative tone answer choice ... revisionist interpretation implies at least two interpretations in the passage ... there are none**
- (E) exploring the relationship between law and social reality ... **exploring is usually when the author does not know what he is talking about ... no such vibe is obtained from the passage context**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 84)

Some **historians** contend that conditions in the United States during the Second World War gave rise to a dynamic wartime alliance between trade unions and the African American community, **an alliance that**

Line 5 **advanced the cause of civil rights.** They conclude that

the postwar demise of this vital alliance constituted a lost opportunity for the civil rights movement that

followed the war. Other **scholars, however** (CONTRAST WORD), have portrayed organized labor as defending all along the

Line 10 relatively privileged position of White workers relative

to African American workers. Clearly, **these two**

perspectives are not easily reconcilable, **but** (CONTRAST WORD) the

historical reality is not reducible to one or the other.

**Comment [RN212]:** Viewpoint # 1 ... trade unions benefitted the African American community

**Comment [RN213]:** Emphasizes the 180 degree nature of the nest stance he's about to present ... that of the scholars ... this is viewpoint # 2 ... trade unions had nothing to contribute to the cause of the African American community

**Comment [RN214]:** Confirms the 180 degree or the paradoxical nature of the two viewpoints in relation to one another.

Line 15 Unions faced a choice between either maintaining the  
 prewar status quo or promoting a more inclusive  
 approach that sought for all members the right to  
 participate in the internal affairs of unions, access to  
 skilled and high-paying positions within the  
 occupational hierarchy, and protection against  
 Line 20 management's arbitrary authority in the workplace.

While union representatives often voiced this inclusive  
 ideal, in practice unions far more often favored  
 entrenched interests. The accelerating development of  
 the civil rights movement following the Second World  
 Line 25 War exacerbated the unions' dilemma, forcing trade  
 unionists to confront contradictions in their own  
 practices.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The passage starts off with the introduction of two opposing viewpoints and reveals that the actual facts conform to neither of the two viewpoints. The author then provides all factual data of what actually happened with the intention to guide the reader, who's on course to assess the two viewpoints, by providing him with a framework on which to proceed on the relevant data that the evaluator should consider while making a judgement on the two viewpoints presented.

The passage is purely narrative in tone; factual in nature.

### QUESTIONS

The "unions' dilemma" mentioned in the highlighted text can best be described as the question of whether or not to

- (A) pressure management to create more skilled and high-paying positions ... the union's dilemma has nothing to do with pressuring the management to creating more skilled and high-paying jobs ... this is not even a goal that they considered as per the passage ... let alone be in a dilemma over it
- (B) fight for greater union participation in management decisions ... union participation in management decisions is again not a goal that the unionists had set out to achieve as per the passage

**Comment [RN215]:** ... this fact sides with viewpoint #2 and thus against viewpoint #1 ... thus acts as a POTENTIAL WEAKENER for viewpoint #1 and a POTENTIAL STRENGTHENER for viewpoint #2

**Comment [RN216]:** ... the fact that they confronted contradictions bears witness to the fact that the unions did not just defend the privileged position of the white workers ... this fact thus sides with viewpoint #1 and thus against viewpoint #2 ... thus acts as a POTENTIAL WEAKENER for viewpoint #2 and a POTENTIAL STRENGTHENER for viewpoint #1

- (C) include minority workers in their membership ... **as per the forged alliance mentioned in the passage, the minority workers (the African American workers) were already a sort of pseudo members of the unions. In addition, the inclusion was not something that the unionists voiced but did not practice in reality**
- (D) extend full rights and benefits to all their members ... **lines 14 – 20 confirm that this was one of the aspects between which the unionist faced a choice ... thus this forms part of the dilemma that was later exacerbated ... CORRECT**
- (E) emphasize the recruitment of new members over serving the needs of current members ... **such a concern is not a part of the passage ... let alone being in a dilemma over it**

According to the passage, the historians and scholars mentioned in the highlighted texts disagree about the

- (A) contribution made by organized labor to the war effort during the Second World War ... **contribution to the war effort is not a part of the passage at all ... the passage has nothing to do with the war as such**
- (B) issues that union members considered **most (superlative – AVOID)** important during the Second World War ... **the passage is about how beneficial the alliance was to the plight of the African Americans not about the issues at the time of the second world war**
- (C) relationship between unions and African Americans during the Second World War ... **the historians are shown to believe that there actually was an alliance and that it actually helped advance the cause of civil rights ... the scholars on the other end believed that there never was such a thing called alliance and that the unionists were primarily interested in guarding their own privileges ... thus CORRECT**
- (D) effect of the Second World War on the influence of unions in the workplace ... **the passage mentions that conditions during the second world war gave rise to the dynamic alliance ... however, the effects of the war on the alliance as such are not discussed in the passage ... nor is there a debate between the two regarding the effect the war had on the influence of unions in the workplace (something else that is not mentioned in the passage)**
- (E) extent to which African Americans benefited from social and political changes following the Second World War ... **the passage never shows one group to be saying that the African Americans benefitted to a certain degree and the other one disagreeing on the statistic ... social and political changes are not part of the passage**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) providing a context within which to evaluate opposing viewpoints about a historical phenomenon ... **exactly ... the passage shares each of the two parties' viewpoints and then presents historical facts that might provide one with a strengthening/weakening framework to evaluate the two viewpoints. CORRECT.**
- (B) identifying a **flawed (negative tone)** assumption underlying one interpretation of a historical phenomenon ... **there is never any assumption in the passage, just**

viewpoints ... viewpoints are not necessarily synonymous with interpretation especially in the context of this passage ... plus there are two not one

- (C) **assessing (signifies a balanced tone)** the merits and weaknesses of a controversial theory about a historical phenomenon ... **the passage has not mention of any theory ... the word controversial is not confirmed from the context of the passage ... 'merits and weaknesses of a theory' take this answer way off track from what the passage has to say**
- (D) discussing the historical importance of the development of a wartime alliance ... **the passage only mentions that one view sees this development as important with regard to the civil rights movement ... what exactly the importance is or why exactly was the alliance important is not part of the passage**
- (E) **evaluating (signals balanced tone)** evidence used to support a particular interpretation of a historical phenomenon ... **the interpretation (if they refer to the viewpoints) are two and the passage never has evidence that supports one over the other ... rather supports neither**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 85)

Historians have identified two dominant currents in the Russian women's movement of the late tsarist period.

"Bourgeois" feminism, so called by its more radical opponents, emphasized "individualist" feminist goals such as access to education, career opportunities, and legal equality. "Socialist" feminists, by contrast, emphasized class, rather than gender, as the principal source of women's inequality and oppression, and socialist revolution, not legal reform, as the only road

to emancipation and equality.

**However (CONTRAST WORD), despite** antagonism between bourgeois

feminists and socialist feminists, the two movements

shared **certain** underlying beliefs. Both regarded paid

labor as the principal means by which women might

attain emancipation: participation in the workplace

**Comment [RN217]:** Notice the structure here ... the passage introduces the two sects in the first paragraph, emphasizing on the marked difference in their beliefs an ideology and the second paragraph begins with a contrast word ... this is a strong clue towards the fact that whatever follows the contrast word is pretty much the MAIN THEME of the passage. MAIN THEME → the reason the author took the trouble to write the paragraph in the first place ...

**Comment [RN218]:** MAIN THEME ... we're discussing similarities here.

and economic self-sufficiency, they believed, would make women socially useful and therefore deserving of equality with men (... **shared belief #1**). Both groups also recognized the enormous difficulties women faced when they

Line 20 combined paid labor with motherhood. In fact, at the First All-Russian Women's Congress in 1908, most participants advocated maternity insurance and paid maternity leave, although the intense hostility between some socialists and bourgeois feminists at the

Line 25 Congress made it difficult for them to recognize these areas of agreement (... **shared belief #2**). Finally, socialist feminists and most bourgeois feminists concurred in subordinating women's emancipation to what they considered the more important goal of liberating the entire Russian

Line 30 population from political oppression, economic backwardness, and social injustice (... **shared belief #3**).

**Author:** NO OPINION (passage factual in nature ...)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author produces two sects (that dominated the Russian women's movement in the late tsarist period) that were radically opposite of each other in terms of their beliefs and ideals. The author then goes on to cite certain points on which they shared a common thought.

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests that socialists within the Russian women's movement and most bourgeois feminists believed that in Russia

- (A) women would not achieve economic equality until they had political representation within the government ... **both the sects did believe that liberating the entire Russian population from political oppression was a goal with higher priority as compared to the goal of emancipation of women ... however, this is the closest the passage comes to talk about the word politics ... political representation and that too linked with economic equality is not a part of the passage**
- (B) the achievement of **larger political aims (liberating the entire Russian population from political oppression)** should take precedence over the **achievement of women's rights**

(women's emancipation) ... lines 26 – 30 justify this answer option as the **CORRECT** answer.

- (C) the emancipation of women would ultimately bring about the liberation of the entire Russian population from political oppression ... **both the sects agreed that the emancipation of women was secondary to the more important goal of liberating the entire Russian population (Men + Women) from political oppression ... this does not mean that one would automatically lead to the other and certainly not in the reverse order as the option mentions it**
- (D) women's oppression was more rooted in economic inequality than was the case in other countries ... **the passage is never seen comparing the condition of Russian women with that of women in other countries**
- (E) the women's movement was more ideologically divided than were women's movements in other countries ... **again, none of either of the sect's beliefs is a comparison of the condition of the women's movement with a similar movement in other countries**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) identifying points of agreement between two groups ... **this is exactly what the passage dedicates the second paragraph to be doing, right after the first paragraph gives us a brief of the two different sects dominating the Russian women's movement. CORRECT**
- (B) **advocating (strongly positive tone)** one approach to social reform over another ... **firstly only one of the sects (the socialists feminists) believed in social reform as an essential part of their means by which they would achieve equality and emancipation ... secondly the passage is never seen favouring one over the other**
- (C) contrasting two approaches to solving a political problem ... **the passage is not a contrast passage ... it rather deals with similarities in the beliefs of the two sects. The problem is not entirely political**
- (D) **arguing (implies opinion and a persuasive tone)** that the views espoused by one political group were more radical than those espoused by another group ... **the relative measure of the degree of radicalness of the views of the groups is not a part of the passage**
- (E) **criticizing (negative tone answer)** historians for overlooking similarities between the views espoused by two superficially dissimilar groups ... **this option is pretty messed up ... the passage firstly is not a message or a call out to the historians and secondly the groups are not superficially dissimilar**

According to the passage, Russian socialists within the women's movement and most bourgeois feminists disagreed about which of the following?

- (A) Whether legal reform was central to the achievement of feminist goals ... **CORRECT ... lines 6 – 10 confirm that legal reform as a means to equality and emancipation is something the socialist feminists disbelieved in**
- (B) Whether paid employment was important for the achievement of equality ... **according to lines 13 – 18 this was a point they agreed on**



- (C) Whether maternity insurance was desirable for working mothers ... **again lines 20 – 23 confirm this to be a point of agreement rather a point of disagreement**
- (D) Whether working mothers faced obstacles ... **lines 18 – 20 somewhat confirm this as a point that both strongly felt for ... not something that they disagreed on**
- (E) Whether women's emancipation should be subordinated to the liberation of the Russian population ... **lines 26 onwards (the final point over which they agreed on) confirm this to be incorrect**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 86)

Colonial historian David Allen's intensive study of five communities in seventeenth-century Massachusetts is a model of meticulous scholarship on the detailed microcosmic level, and is **convincing up to a point**.

Line 5 Allen suggests that **much more coherence and direct continuity existed between English and colonial agricultural practices and administrative organization** than other historians have suggested. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, he **overstates (... -ve tone)** his case with the declaration that he has

Line 10 proved "the remarkable extent to which diversity in New England local institutions was directly imitative of regional differences in the mother country."

Such an assertion **ignores critical differences (... -ve tone)** between seventeenth-century England and New England. First,

Line 15 England was overcrowded and land-hungry; New England was sparsely populated and labor-hungry. Second, England suffered the normal European rate of mortality; New England, especially in the first generation of English colonists, was virtually free from

Line 20 infectious diseases. Third, England had an all-

**Comment [RN219]:** Signals that a negative tone by the author might be in store later in the passage ...

**Comment [RN220]:** This is Allen's intensive study or at least what the study reports ...

**Comment [RN221]:** If the very main conclusion of your study is declared by someone to be inaccurate, if the very picture that you wish to portray through your reporting is determined by someone to be distorted ... then that is a CRITICISM by the one making a comment on your study ... the commenter implies that you have not served the main purpose that you had set out to serve as accurately as was required to be

**Comment [RN222]:** Ignoring critical differences is a pretty gruesome error

embracing state church; in New England membership in a church was restricted to the elect. Fourth, a high proportion of English villagers lived under paternalistic resident squires; no such class existed in New

Line 25 England. By **narrowing his focus to village institutions and ignoring these critical differences**, which studies by Greven, Demos, and Lockridge have shown to be so important, Allen has created a somewhat **distorted picture of reality (... strongly -ve tone)**.

**Comment [RN223]:** The author is seen here attacking the methodology adopted by Allen ...

Line 30 Allen's work is a rather **extreme example of the "country community" (... -ve tone)** school of seventeenth-century English history whose intemperate excesses in removing all national issues from the history of that period have been exposed by Professor Clive Holmes.

**Comment [RN224]:** Attacking the methodology again ... this is negative tone because when we read further we realize that the author is strongly anti to the country community school of thought too...

Line 35 What conclusion can be drawn, for example, from Allen's discovery that Puritan clergy who had come to the colonies from East Anglia were one-third to one-half as likely to return to England by 1660 as were Puritan ministers from western and northern England?

Line 40 We are **not told in what way, if at all (... -ve tone)**, this **discovery** illuminates historical understanding. Studies of local history have enormously expanded our horizons, **but (CONTRAST WORD) it is a mistake for their authors to conclude that village institutions are all that mattered, simply because their functions are all that the records of village institutions reveal (... AUTHOR'S OPINION – CRITICISM)**.

**Comment [RN225]:** Attacking methodology again ...

**Author: OPINION** (criticism by the author ...)

The passage is criticism only ... no suggestion!

**Tone: NEGATIVE**

**Comment [RN226]:** This is like the final nail in the coffin where the author makes a strong judgemental comment on the way the authors have gone about in deducing results from particular pieces of evidence ...

The passage begins with the first paragraph hinting us about the author's contention with the reporting of a particular study regarding a comparison of certain livelihood in the past between colonial England and England. The author takes the second paragraph to show how deviated a picture the report presents when compared with reality. The author attacks the methodology of the study in the third paragraph. The passage is a pure criticism passage.

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, which of the following was true of most villages in seventeenth-century England?

- (A) The resident squire had significant authority ... lines 22 – 24 confirm that a high proportion of English villagers lived under paternalistic squires implying that the squires had considerable authority under the paternalistic structure. CORRECT.
- (B) Church members were selected on the basis of their social status within the community ... lines 20 – 22 confirm that this was true of New England not of the mother country ... England is said to have an all embracing state church
- (C) Low population density restricted agricultural and economic growth ... lines 15 – 16 confirm that New England and not England was sparsely populated and labor hungry ... England is mentioned to be overcrowded and thus land hungry
- (D) There was little diversity in local institutions from one region to another ... the entire passage concerns itself with how much imitative one region was of the other in terms of diversity or regional differences ... there is never however an absolute measure of the diversity made in the passage for either locations
- (E) National events had little impact on local customs and administrative organization ... National events impacting local customs in either of the regions is not a part of the passage at all

The passage suggests that Professor Clive Holmes would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

- (A) An understanding of seventeenth-century English local institutions requires a consideration of national issues ... lines 30 – 34 mention Allen's work to be on the lines of that of the "Country Community" school and Professor Holmes was against this schools methodology for it excluded national issues (this is perhaps why he exposed them) ... thus Professor Holmes can be said to be of the idea that national issues are an important consideration while understanding local institutions. CORRECT.
- (B) The "country community" school of seventeenth-century English history distorts historical evidence in order to establish continuity between old and new institutions ... the "country community" school of thought is only mentioned in so far as removal of national issues from the history of that period ... this only implies that the effects of national issues were not considered by this group when deducing implications ... old and new institutions are not a part of the passage, neither is evidence distortion or any continuity establishment

- (C) **Most (superlative – AVOID)** historians distort reality by focusing on national concerns to the exclusion of local concerns ... **such a fixated focus is not part of the passage at all**
- (D) National issues are **best (superlative – AVOID)** understood from the perspective of those at the local level ... **national issues are never given so much consideration in the passage as to judge the perspective from which they should be understood ... the only info that the passage has is that national issues were removed by the country community school in its study**
- (E) Local histories of seventeenth-century English villages have contributed little to the understanding of village life ... **Clive had no comment to make on the local histories of English villages ... or their contributions**

It can be inferred from the passage that the author of the passage considers Allen's "discovery" (see highlighted text) to be

- (A) already known to earlier historians ... **the author never doubts the discovery as such**
- (B) based on a logical fallacy ... **again the author has no contention with the discovery as such, only how it might be linked to historical understanding**
- (C) improbable but nevertheless convincing ... **this option again attacks the validity of the discovery and not the possible insights one might get out of this discovery**
- (D) an unexplained, isolated fact ... **lines 40 – 41 see the author complaining that the discovery does not help one understand the relevant historical context and thus remains as a standalone fact with no insights. CORRECT.**
- (E) a new, insightful observation ... **180 degrees answer ... the author is seen complaining of not gaining any insight via the discovery**

The author of the passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) **substantiating (positive tone answer)** a claim about a historical event ... **quite the opposite ... the author takes issue with Allen's assertion**
- (B) **reconciling (positive tone answer)** two opposing ideas about a historical era ... **the passage is not a reconciliation passage ... reconciling implies a minimum of three opinions ... the passage only has two ... that of Allen and that of the author**
- (C) **disputing evidence** a scholar uses to substantiate a claim about a historical event ... **the author does not have issues with the evidence as such ... moreover, the evidence used by Allen is not even explicitly detailed ... the author has issues with his claim itself ... also, Allen's claim is regarding a pattern (similarity) in history ... not sure if his claiming that there was much similarity ..... Qualifies for a claim about an EVENT ... which is supposed to be a happening**
- (D) **analyzing (neutral tone answer)** two approaches to scholarly research and **evaluating (balanced tone answer)** their methodologies ... **the passage criticizes and that too just one approach ... that of Allen**
- (E) **criticizing** a particular study and the approach to historical scholarship it represents ... **the first two paragraphs do the criticizing of the study and the third of the approach it represents ... perfect match. CORRECT.**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 87)

The United States government has a long-standing policy of using federal funds to keep small business viable. The Small Business Act of 1953 authorized the

**Comment [RN227]:** The policy as such ... the subject of the passage.

Small Business Administration (SBA) to enter into

Line 5 contracts with government agencies having procurement powers and to arrange for fulfillment of these contracts by awarding subcontracts to small

businesses. In the mid-1960's, during the war on poverty years, Congress hoped to encourage minority

**Comment [RN228]:** The birth of the policy ... followed by what the policy encouraged in the 1960's

Line 10 entrepreneurs by directing such funding to minority businesses. At first this funding was directed toward minority entrepreneurs with very low incomes. A 1967 amendment to the Economic Opportunity Act directed the SBA to pay special attention to minority-owned

Line 15 businesses located in urban or rural areas characterized by high proportions of unemployed or low-income individuals. Since then, the answer given to the fundamental question of who the recipients should be—the most economically disadvantaged or

Line 20 those with the best prospects for business success—has changed, and the social goals of the programs have shifted, resulting in policy changes.

The first shift occurred during the early 1970's. While the goal of assisting the economically disadvantaged

**Comment [RN229]:** Change in policy #1

Line 25 entrepreneur remained, a new goal emerged: to remedy the effects of past discrimination. In fact, in 1970 the SBA explicitly stated that their main goal was

to increase the number of minority-owned businesses.

At the time, minorities constituted seventeen percent

Line 30 of the nation's population, but only four percent of the nation's self-employed. This **ownership gap** was

held to be the result of past discrimination. Increasing

the number of minority-owned firms was seen as a

way to remedy this problem. In that context,

Line 35 providing funding to minority entrepreneurs in middle- and high-income brackets seemed justified.

In the **late 1970's**, the goals of minority-business

funding programs shifted again. At the Minority

Business Development Agency, for example, the goal

Line 40 of increasing numbers of minority-owned firms was supplanted by the goal of creating and assisting more

minority-owned substantive firms with future growth

potential. Assisting manufacturers or wholesalers

became far more important than assisting small

Line 45 service businesses. Minority-business funding programs were now justified as instruments for economic development, particularly for creating jobs in minority communities of high unemployment.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

*The passage has a purely narrative nature!*

**The passage begins with the introduction of a government policy with its initial social goals. The passage then goes on to describe the major shift in these goals that the policy has undergone in the past.**

**Comment [RN230]:** Change in policy #2



## QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) discuss historical changes in a government policy ... **CORRECT. The passage introduces the policy and discusses the changes it has undergone**
- (B) describe the role of Congress in regulating the work of the SBA ... **the congress is never shown in terms of how it regulated the work of the SBA in the passage**
- (C) contrast types of funding sources used by minority businesses ... **the passage is not a contrast passage ... funding sources are not categorized in types in the passage**
- (D) **correct (implies opinion and a strong positive tone)** a misconception about minority entrepreneurship ... **the passage does not endorse any misconception about the minority entrepreneurship ... moreover, to correct a misconception requires a minimum of two opinions in the passage ... the passage has none**
- (E) **advocate (strong opinion)** an alternative approach to funding minority entrepreneurs ... **there is no alternative approach in the passage as such ... and certainly not for funding purposes**

It can be inferred that the "ownership gap" (the gap between minority percentage in general population – 17% – and in self-employed population– 4%) (see highlighted text) would be narrowed if which of the following were to occur?

- (A) Minority entrepreneurs received a percentage of government contracts equal to that received by nonminority entrepreneurs ... **the option requires the increase in the number of minority entrepreneurs, not an increase in the contracts received by the already existing entrepreneurs**
- (B) Middle- and high-income minority entrepreneurs gave more assistance to their low-income counterparts in the business community ... **this option too does see an overall increase in the number of entrepreneurs ... basically to decrease the ownership gap we need to have more number of minority entrepreneurs coming up regardless of their income group**
- (C) Minority entrepreneurs hired a percentage of minority employees equal to the percentage of minority residents in their own communities ... **this increases the number of minority people who are employed but not the number of minority of people who are self-employed**
- (D) The percentage of self-employed minority persons rose to more than ten percent of all self-employed persons ... **this option directly raises the percentage of self-employed minority persons from 4% to above 10% thus taking it closer to 17% and thus reducing the ownership talked of in the passage. CORRECT.**
- (E) Seventeen percent of all persons employed in small businesses were self-employed ... **this option does not even discuss the minority people whom the ownership gap is everything about**

According to the passage, in 1970 funding to minority entrepreneurs focused primarily on which of the following?

- (A) Alleviating chronic unemployment in urban areas ... **alleviating unemployment that too targeted in urban areas is not mentioned in the passage ... the passage does show the funding to be concerned with unemployment towards the end of the passage in the late 1970's, however, this unemployment is not specific to urban areas**
- (B) Narrowing the ownership gap ... **the goal in the 1970's (second para) was indeed to increase the number of minority-owned firms and thus reduce the ownership gap. CORRECT.**
- (C) Assisting minority-owned businesses with growth potential ... **this was a goal that was taken up more towards the end of the 1970's**
- (D) Awarding subcontracts to businesses that encouraged community development ... **businesses encouraging community development is not a part of the passage**
- (E) Targeting the most economically disadvantaged minority-owned businesses ... **this was the funding's primary goal before 1970 as per the passage**

Which of the following best describes the function of the second paragraph in the passage as a whole?

- (A) It narrows the scope of the topic introduced in the first paragraph ... **the scope of the topic is never narrowed in the entire passage ... to narrow down the scope means to become more specific which is not something that the second paragraph does**
- (B) It presents an example of the type of change discussed in the first paragraph ... **exactly ... the second para does mention a change that the policy underwent thereby exemplifying the change discussed in the first paragraph. CORRECT.**
- (C) It cites the **most (superlative – AVOID)** striking instance of historical change in a particular government policy ... **although instance is of a historical change, however, nothing in the passage suggests that the change is striking in nature**
- (D) It explains the rationale for the creation of the government agency whose operations are discussed in the first paragraph ... **a rationale implies a set of reasons or a logical basis ... the paragraph does not present anything close to such a structure ... the reasons for the creation of the government agency is not discussed in the passage anywhere ... the government agency only has a mention in the passage and nothing more**
- (E) It presents the results of policies adopted by the federal government ... **the passage is concerned with one policy and not policies ... the second para does not present any sort of results or outcomes (as in what happened as a result of implementation of the policies) anywhere**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 88)

In terrestrial environments, gravity places special demands on the cardiovascular systems of animals.

Gravitational pressure can cause blood to pool in the lower regions of the body, making it difficult to

Line 5 circulate blood to critical organs such as the brain.

Terrestrial snakes, in particular, exhibit adaptations that aid in circulating blood against the force of gravity.

**Comment [RN231]:** Gives us a clue that the rest of the passage is going to be about the terrestrial adaptations in snakes

Line 10 The problem confronting terrestrial snakes is best illustrated by what happens to sea snakes when removed from their supportive medium. Because the vertical pressure gradients within the blood vessels are counteracted by similar pressure gradients in the surrounding water, the distribution of blood

Line 15 throughout the body of sea snakes remains about the same regardless of their orientation in space, provided they remain in the ocean. When removed from the water and tilted at various angles with the head up, however, blood pressure at their midpoint drops

Line 20 significantly, and at brain level falls to zero. That many terrestrial snakes in similar spatial orientations do not experience this kind of circulatory failure suggests that certain adaptations enable them to regulate blood pressure more effectively in those

Line 25 orientations.

One such adaptation is the closer proximity of the terrestrial snake's heart to its head, which helps to

ensure circulation to the brain, regardless of the snake's orientation in space. The heart of sea snakes can be located near the middle of the body, a position that minimizes the work entailed in circulating blood to both extremities. In arboreal snakes, however, which dwell in trees and often assume a vertical posture, the average distance from the heart to the head can be as

little as 15 percent of overall body length. Such a location requires that blood circulated to the tail of the snake travel a greater distance back to the heart, a problem solved by another adaptation. When climbing, arboreal snakes often pause momentarily to wiggle their bodies, causing waves of muscle contraction that advance from the lower torso to head.

By compressing the veins and forcing blood forward, these contractions apparently improve the flow of venous blood returning to the heart.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces us how gravity places certain challenges on certain organs and requires the organism to adapt accordingly. The author takes up the case of terrestrial snakes and shows with the help of observations on sea snakes (particularly because they've evolved in a relatively gravity free environment) that the certain adaptations in terrestrial snakes.

The passage is purely factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The passage supports the assertions that:

- (A) The disadvantages of an adaptation to a particular feature of an environment often outweigh the advantages of such an adaptation ... **the passage is never seen to be highlighting a scenario where a disadvantage of a particular adaptation was far more devastating than the benefit of the advantage**

- (B) An organism's reaction (that of the sea snake) to being placed in an environment (out of water) to which it is not well adapted can sometimes illustrate the problems (sea snakes experiencing the kind of circulatory failure when taken out of water and tilted at various angles) that have been solved by the adaptations of organisms indigenous (terrestrial snakes) to that environment ... this is exactly the idea that paragraph 2 presents in its entirety ... CORRECT
- (C) The effectiveness of an organism's adaptation to a particular feature of its environment can only be evaluated by examining the effectiveness with which organisms of other species have adapted to a similar feature of a different environment ... nowhere in the passage is the author concerned with the effectiveness of the organism's adaptation ... none of the similar adaptations in the two environment are compared ... i.e. water and the terrestrial environment
- (D) Organisms of the same species that inhabit strikingly (a bit extreme as per the passage) different environments will often adapt in remarkably similar ways to the few features of those environments that are common ... there are no common features between the sea environment and the terrestrial environment that are taken up in the passage ... the sea snake is observed outside water never is it shown to inhabit the terrestrial environment ... same species inhabiting different environments is not confirmed from the passage
- (E) Different species of organisms living in the same environment will seldom adapt to features of that environment in the same way ... the passage explores the adaptations of one organism in a particular environment by observing the difficulties faced by an organism of the same species that is not adapted to that particular environment ... the passage never takes it to different species adapting in the same environment

According to the passage, one reason that the distribution of blood in the sea snake changes little while the creature remains in the ocean is that

- (A) the heart of the sea snake tends to be located near the center of its body ... the heart being at the centre though true as a fact is an adaptation rather than a cause for the effective distribution of blood in the organism ... the question basically asks for the reason why the snake has adapted such that its heart can remain at the centre and still allow for an effective blood distribution
- (B) pressure gradients in the water surrounding the sea snake counter the effects of vertical pressure gradients within its blood vessels ... lines 11 – 14 confirm this word by word. CORRECT
- (C) the sea snake assumes a vertical posture less frequently than do the terrestrial and the arboreal snake ... this piece of information cannot be confirmed from the content of the passage ... frequency of assuming the posture is not mentioned
- (D) the sea snake often relies on waves of muscle contractions to help move blood from the torso to the head ... mix up of information presented in the passage ... the muscle contractions are mentioned in context to the arboreal snakes
- (E) the force of pressure gradients (not mentioned) in the water surrounding the sea snake exceeds that of vertical pressure gradients within its circulatory system ... it is the

**pressure gradient in the water not the force of it (if there is such a thing) that does the balancing**

**The author suggests that which of the following is a disadvantage that results from the location of a snake's heart in close proximity to its head?**

- (A) A decrease in the efficiency with which the snake regulates the flow of blood to the brain ... **this adaptation particularly ensures the effective circulation to the brain because of being nearer to it ... 180 degrees**
- (B) A decrease in the number of orientations in space that a snake can assume without loss of blood flow to the brain ... **the snake is actually better able to take on different orientations in space because of this particular adaptation**
- (C) A decrease in blood pressure at the snake's midpoint when it is tilted at various angles with its head up ... **this is something observed in the sea snakes (when taken out of water) that have their heart midway in their body**
- (D) An increase in the tendency of blood to pool at the snake's head when the snake is tilted at various angles with its head down ... **blood pooling at the snake's head is never mentioned in the passage at all**
- (E) An increase in the amount of effort required to distribute blood to and from the snake's tail ... **lines 35 – 38 confirm this option word by word. CORRECT**

**In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with doing which of the following?**

- (A) Explaining adaptations that enable the terrestrial snake to cope with the effects of gravitational pressure on its circulatory system ... **this is exactly what the passage is doing ... why doesn't this option have a mention of sea snakes? ... well for the simple reason that they are tertiary to the main point of discussion of the passage ... they only help identify and thus explain the adaptations in terrestrial (including arboreal) snakes. CORRECT**
- (B) Comparing the circulatory system of the sea snake with that of the terrestrial snake ... **notice how this option has no mention of a pretty key feature of the passage ADAPTATIONS ← this is what the passage has a mention of in almost every alternate sentence ... moreover, the passage is not a textbook chapter on circulatory systems of sea and terrestrial snakes**
- (C) Explaining **why (the 'why' is not the main theme of the passage)** the circulatory system of the terrestrial snake is different from that of the sea snake ... **notice again how this option has no mention of the word adaptation(s) ... which is pretty much the star of the passage ... also kindly note that the only reason that the passage takes up the difference in the circulatory system is to highlight and / or identify the adaptations in the terrestrial snakes that help it to cope with the effects of gravity**
- (D) Pointing out features of the terrestrial snake's cardiovascular system that make it superior to that of the sea snake ... **the two organisms are not discussed with the intention to prove one superior to another ... each has an effective and well adapted cardiovascular system of its own**



- (E) Explaining how the sea snake is able to neutralize the effects of gravitational pressure on its circulatory system ... **the sea snake doesn't do it ... the pressure gradient of water does it ... and doing so takes up just one line in the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 89)

In a new book about the antiparty feeling of the early political leaders of the United States, Ralph Ketcham **argues** that the first six Presidents differed decisively from later Presidents because the first six held values

Line 5 inherited from the classical humanist tradition of eighteenth-century England. In this view, government was designed not to satisfy the private desires of the people but to make them better citizens; this tradition stressed the disinterested devotion of political leaders

Line 10 to the public good. Justice, wisdom, and courage were more important qualities in a leader than the ability to organize voters and win elections. Indeed, leaders were supposed to be called to office rather than to run for office. And if they took up the burdens

Line 15 of public office with a sense of duty, leaders also believed that such offices were naturally their due because of their social preeminence or their contributions to the country. Given this classical conception of leadership, it is not surprising that the

Line 20 first six Presidents condemned political parties. Parties were partial by definition, self-interested, and therefore serving something other than the transcendent public good.

**Comment [RN232]:** This argument is what is looked into in the rest of the passage.

Even during the first presidency (Washington's),

Line 25 however, the classical conception of virtuous leadership was being undermined by commercial forces that had been gathering since at least the beginning of the eighteenth century. Commerce—its profit-making, its self-interestedness, its

Line 30 individualism—became the enemy of these classical ideals. **Although (CONTRAST WORD)** Ketcham does not picture the struggle in quite this way, he does rightly see Jackson's tenure (the seventh presidency) as the culmination of the acceptance of party, commerce,

Line 35 and individualism. For the Jacksonians, nonpartisanship lost its relevance, and under the direction of Van Buren, party gained a new legitimacy.

The classical ideals of the first six Presidents became identified with a privileged aristocracy, an aristocracy

Line 40 that had to be overcome in order to allow competition between opposing political interests. Ketcham is so strongly committed to justifying the classical ideals, however, that he underestimates the advantages of their decline. For example, the classical conception of

Line 45 leadership was incompatible with our modern notion of the freedoms of speech and press, freedoms intimately associated with the legitimacy of opposing political parties.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

All the author does in the entire passage is present an argument made by the author Ketcham about the values held distinctly by the first six presidents of the United States. The author then simply makes objective observations on the various parts of the

**Comment [RN233]:** The author here is not commenting on Ralph's argument but rather making factual observations about the structure of his argument

**Comment [RN234]:** Again the author is not criticizing Ketcham here ... In the context of the entire passage (which is presenting more of an analysis of Ketcham in that the passage is trying to understand the structure of his argument) this line is just another factual observation the author makes about the argument ... this is not a judgemental call the author takes but rather an objective observation statement the author writes ... this is a factual statement rather than an opinion.

argument in an attempt to examine how the different parts of the argument fit together. The author is trying to observe the structure of the argument throughout alongside describing the argument. This is what analysing is ...

The passage is purely factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) describing and comparing two theories about the early history of the United States ... **the passage does not contain any theories ... only an argument ... the passage is not a comparison passage**
- (B) describing and analyzing an argument about the early history of the United States ... **this is exactly what the passage does ... describes as well as analyses (studying the structure of the argument by making objective observations about the argument) the argument ... thus CORRECT**
- (C) discussing new evidence that qualifies a theory about the early history of the United States ... **the passage has no theory ... nothing in the passage may be construed as 'new evidence'**
- (D) **refuting (negative tone)** a theory about political leadership in the United States ... **again there is no theory in the passage and certainly not one about political leadership**
- (E) **resolving (implies author's input, his opinion)** an ambiguity in an argument about political leadership in the United States ... **there is no such ambiguity (something of doubtful meaning) in the passage that needs any resolving**

According to the passage, the author and Ketcham agree on which of the following points?

- (A) The first six Presidents held the same ideas about political parties as did later Presidents in the United States ... **this is exactly opposite to what the argument in the passage presents ... both the author and Ketcham are likely to disagree with what this option has to say ... 180 degrees answer**
- (B) Classical ideals supported the growth of commercial forces in the United States ... **lines 28 – 31 confirm that Ketcham believes and the author concurs that classical ideals and the growth of commercial forces were anti to each other ... again 180 degrees**
- (C) The first political parties in the United States were formed during Van Buren's term in office ... **Van Buren is not confirmed to have had a term in office (as in the presidential office) ... this option mixes up the facts ... moreover, Buren is credited only with providing the party legitimacy**
- (D) The first six Presidents placed great emphasis on individualism and civil rights ... **individualism is linked with commercial forces (line 30) and hence an enemy of classical ideals which the first six presidents greatly endorsed ... civil rights is not exactly a part of the passage**
- (E) Widespread acceptance of political parties occurred during Andrew Jackson's presidency ... **lines 32 – 35 confirm the authenticity of this option. CORRECT.**

It can be inferred that the author of the passage would be most likely to agree that modern views of the freedoms of speech and press are

- (A) values closely associated with the beliefs of the aristocracy of the early United States ... **lines 38 – 41 confirm that the classical ideals came to be viewed as a mark of privileged aristocracy and lines 44 onwards confirm that classical ideals were incompatible with freedoms of speech and press ... thus the option calls two incompatible elements as closely associated**
- (B) political rights less compatible with democracy and individualism than with classical ideals ... **political rights is not part of the passage ... thus what comprises political rights cannot be inferred ... moreover, classical ideals are seen as opposite to both freedom of speech and press as well as individualism ... by that logic freedom of speech and press is more likely to be compatible with individualism than with classical ideals**
- (C) political rights uninfluenced by the formation of opposing political parties ... **political rights and that too those uninfluenced as mentioned in the option are not a part of the passage**
- (D) values not inherent in the classical humanist tradition of eighteenth-century England ... **lines 44 onwards clearly mention that classical conception (or values inherent in the classical humanist tradition) is incompatible with freedom of speech and press ... thus CORRECT**
- (E) values whose interpretation would have been agreed on by all **(superlative – AVOID)** United States Presidents ... **there is nothing in the passage to which all the presidents might agree to**

Which of the following, if true, provides the LEAST support for the author's argument (*Jackson's tenure (the seventh presidency) as the culmination of the acceptance of party, commerce, and individualism*) **about commerce and political parties during Jackson's presidency?**

- (A) Many supporters of Jackson resisted the commercialization that could result from participation in a national economy ... **this gives us a reason to doubt whether it was truly under Jackson's tenure that the culmination of the acceptance of commerce was observed ... this option therefore is least supportive if not a weakener ... CORRECT.**
- (B) Protest against the corrupt and partisan nature of political parties in the United States subsided during Jackson's presidency ... **the protests dying off is a signal that non-partisanship began losing its foothold and hence giving way to partisanship and commercialization under his tenure ... considerable support**
- (C) During Jackson's presidency the use of money became more common than bartering of goods and services ... **this provides considerable support to the fact that Jackson's tenure saw the culmination of commercial activity**
- (D) More northerners than southerners supported Jackson because southerners were opposed to the development of a commercial economy ... **supports the fact that Jackson's tenure saw a rise in commercial activity and moreover that his tenure was perceived in general as one advocating commerce over classical ideals**

- (E) Andrew Jackson did not feel as strongly committed to the classical ideals of leadership as George Washington had felt ... **all the more reason to believe that he endorsed the culmination of commerce and individualism**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 90)

Conventional wisdom has it that large deficits in the United States budget cause interest rates to rise. Two main arguments are given for this claim. According to **the first**, as the deficit increases, the government will

Line 5 borrow more to make up for the ensuing shortage of funds. Consequently, it is argued, if both the total supply of credit (money available for borrowing) and

the amount of credit sought by nongovernment borrowers remain relatively stable, as is often  
Line 10 supposed, then the price of credit (the interest rate) will increase. That this is so is suggested by the basic economic principle that if supplies of a commodity (here, credit) remain fixed and demand for that commodity increases, its price will also increase. **The**

Line 15 **second argument** supposes that the government will tend to finance its deficits by increasing the money supply with insufficient regard for whether there is enough room for economic growth to enable such an increase to occur without causing inflation. It is then

Line 20 argued that financiers will expect the deficit to cause inflation and will raise interest rates, anticipating that because of inflation the money they lend will be worth less when paid back.

**Unfortunately** for the first argument, it is unreasonable

Line 25 to assume that nongovernment borrowing and the supply of credit will remain relatively stable (*implied criticism – negative tone ...*).

Nongovernment borrowing sometimes decreases.

When it does, increased government borrowing will not necessarily push up the total demand for credit.

Line 30 Alternatively, when credit availability increases, for example through greater foreign lending to the United States, then interest rates need not rise, even if both private and government borrowing increase.

The second argument is also **problematic** (*implied criticism – negative tone ...*). Financing

Line 35 the deficit by increasing the money supply should cause inflation only when there is not enough room for economic growth. Currently, there is no reason to expect deficits to cause inflation. However, since many financiers believe that deficits ordinarily create

Line 40 inflation, then **admittedly** they will be inclined to raise interest rates to offset mistakenly anticipated inflation. This effect, however, is due to ignorance, not to the deficit itself, and could be lessened by educating financiers on this issue.

**Comment [RN235]:** The author here is pointing out a flaw in the first argument ... this is more like the author presenting factual information to show that the argument is flawed rather than directly making a judgemental comment on the argument ... I would most likely stick to calling this paragraph factual ... facts, known and confirmed evidence is what the author forwards to expose the loophole ... no opinion here!

**Comment [RN236]:** Again the author is only presenting facts here, information that everyone is aware of and is hence verifiable, to pinpoint flaws in the second argument as well ... no opinion here as well!

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEGATIVE** (*implied criticism ...*)

The passage is implied criticism only ... no suggestion!

The author takes up a widely held belief regarding the correlation between large deficits and interest rates. The author then presents two arguments that have been in general forwarded to explain the widely held correlation. The following two paragraphs are taken up the author to present some verifiable hard evidence to show or prove that both the arguments are based on flawed assumptions. The author does not make any direct judgmental calls on the nature of the arguments (as in saying that the arguments are poorly crafted etc.), but rather presents facts and lets them do all the talking.



### QUESTIONS

Which of the following best summarizes the central idea of the passage?

- (A) A decrease in nongovernment borrowing or an increase in the availability of credit can eliminate or lessen the ill effects of increased borrowing by the government ... **notice how this option does not even touch on the second argument regarding the financier anticipation ... moreover, what this option says is just one possible scenario that has the potential to undermine the first argument ... a possible scenario with the potential to undermine an argument in the passage can never be the central idea of the passage**
- (B) Educating financiers about the true relationship between large federal deficits and high interest rates will make financiers less prone to raise interest rates in response to deficits ... **again this is a possible scenario that calls into question the second argument ... this cannot be the central idea of the passage as this is a support statement to the author's contention ... this option also misses out on the first argument completely ... the education is not on the 'true relationship' but on the idea that deficit need not always cause inflation**
- (C) There is little support for the widely held belief that large federal deficits will create higher interest rates, as the main arguments given to defend this claim are flawed ... **encapsulates both the arguments ... after the arguments are presented in the first para the second and the third para project the exact overall idea as mentioned in the answer option. CORRECT.**
- (D) When the government borrows money, demand for credit increases, typically creating higher interest rates unless special conditions such as decreased consumer spending arise ... **this option has cleverly left out the deficit part altogether ... only in the context of a deficit might the above effect even be considered for evaluation ... decreased consumer spending is not a part of the passage ... moreover this option does not touch on the second argument at all**
- (E) Given that **most** (superlative – AVOID) financiers believe in a cause-and-effect relationship between large deficits and high interest rates, it should be expected that financiers will raise interest rates ... **does not touch on the first argument at all ... this is the assumption in the second argument that the author sets out to show as flawed**

It can be inferred from the passage that proponents of the second argument would most likely agree with which of the following statements?

- (A) The United States government does not usually care whether or not inflation increases ... **nothing of such sort is mentioned ... the passage mentions (in lines 17 – 19) that the government increases the money supply with insufficient regard (not synonymous with regardless) for whether there is room for economic growth. This does not imply that the government has a casual attitude towards inflation itself.**
- (B) People in the United States government generally know very little about economics ... **nothing in the passage can come even close to justifying this passage**
- (C) The United States government is sometimes careless in formulating its economic policies ... **lines 15 – 19 confirm that the government in case of large deficits will tend**

to act in manner in order to finance its deficit (as though following a policy or a protocol) ... a manner that ultimately sees a rise in inflation ... thus, the above may be inferred. **CORRECT.**

- (D) The United States government sometimes relies too much on the easy availability of foreign credit ... **easily available credit is not a part of the passage, and most certainly not a part of portion of the passage where the arguments are presented (para 1) from the point of view its proponents**
- (E) The United States government increases the money supply whenever there is enough room for growth to support the increase ... **lines 15 – 19 confirm that the government holds insufficient regard for what this option holds full regard ... and the increase in money supply is not a response of there being enough room to support the increase, it is a response of financing its deficits**

**Which of the following claims concerning the United States government's financing of the deficit does the author make in discussing the second argument?**

- (A) The government will decrease the money supply in times when the government does not have a deficit to finance ... **nothing regarding the time when there is no deficit can be inferred from the passage ... it could keep it constant for all we know**
- (B) The government finances its deficits by increasing the money supply whenever the economy is expanding ... **although the government does increase the money supply, however, it pays little heed to whether the economy is expanding or not ... moreover, the increase in money supply is not when the economy is expanding, it is when there basically is a large deficit**
- (C) As long as the government finances the deficit by borrowing, nongovernment borrowers will pay higher interest rates ... **non-government borrowers and government borrowings are a part of the first argument**
- (D) The **only (extreme - AVOID)** way for the government to finance its deficits is to increase the money supply without regard for whether such an increase would cause inflation ... **this is something the author presents as part of the argument ... this is not what the author himself has claimed or is likely to claim**
- (E) Inflation should be caused when the government finances the deficit by increasing the money supply only if there is not enough room for economic growth to support the increase ... **an exact paraphrase of lines 34 – 37. CORRECT.**

**The author uses the term "admittedly" (see highlighted text) in order (purpose question) to indicate that**

- (A) the second argument has some truth to it, though not for the reasons usually supposed ... **perfect match, the author does suggest that though he agrees with the fact that interests rates will increase as per the argument as said, however, not because they're logically supposed to but because ignorance on part of the financiers. CORRECT.**
- (B) the author has not been successful in attempting to point out inadequacies in the two arguments ... **nothing in the passage implies the author's failure to point out the inadequacies**

- (C) the thesis that large deficits directly cause interest rates to rise has **strong (extreme)** support after all ... **the author ends up pointing out flaws in both the arguments, he never concedes any particular argument to ultimately have strong support**
- (D) financiers should admit that they were wrong in thinking that large deficits will cause higher inflation rates ... **the author does not suggest or prescribe anything to the financiers**
- (E) financiers generally do not think that the author's criticisms of the second argument are worthy of consideration ... **financiers thoughts / views / opinions are not shared in the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 91)

Current feminist theory, in validating women's own stories of their experience, has encouraged scholars of women's history to view the use of women's oral narratives as the methodology, next to the use of

Line 5 women's written autobiography, that brings historians closest to the "reality" of women's lives. Such

narratives, unlike most standard histories, represent experience from the perspective of women, affirm the importance of women's contributions, and furnish

Line 10 present-day women with historical continuity that is essential to their identity, individually and collectively.

Scholars of women's history should, **however (CONTRAST WORD)**, be as cautious about accepting oral narratives at face value

as they already are about written memories. Oral

Line 15 narratives are no more likely than are written narratives to provide a disinterested commentary on events or people. **Moreover**, the stories people tell to explain themselves are shaped by narrative devices and storytelling conventions, as well as by other

**Comment [RN237]:** The appeal of the methodology promoted by the current feminist theory ...

**Comment [RN238]:** note the cautionary tone expressed by the author here ...  
Although the word 'should' here is a pretty strong signaller of an opinion by the author, we must bear in mind the message that the author puts across using the word 'should'. The one major criterion judging a sentence as to whether it is an opinion or a fact is whether it is something believed by the author or known by the author. Here the word 'should' has more of a sense of duty attached to it rather than a sense of suggestion. 'Should' here shows the author presenting a factual prescription rather than a suggestion. Take the following examples:  
You should take this tablet twice daily  
You should slow down approaching a speed bump  
These are both NOT opinions they're FACTUAL in nature ... as opposed to  
You should wear the green shirt to work today ← OPINION.

**Comment [RN239]:** More concerns ...

Line 20 cultural and historical factors, in ways that the storytellers may be unaware of. The political rhetoric of a particular era, for example, may influence women's interpretations of the significance of their experience. Thus a woman who views the Second

Line 25 World War as pivotal in increasing the social acceptance of women's paid work outside the home may reach that conclusion partly and unwittingly because of wartime rhetoric encouraging a positive view of women's participation in such work.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

*Overall neutral with a pinch of concern in between ...*

The passage presents a methodology endorsed by the current feminist theory, and discusses some of the methodology's benefits that project the methodology's appeal. The author follows this up with some concerns about its use.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) contrasting the benefits of one methodology with the benefits of another ... **there is only one methodology in the passage ... the passage is definitely not a contrast one**
- (B) describing the historical origins (chronology answer – AVOID) and inherent drawbacks of a particular methodology ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the methodology discussed in the passage suffers from inherent drawbacks**
- (C) discussing the appeal of a particular methodology and some concerns about its use ... **the first half of the passage discusses the appeal of the methodology and the latter half some concerns about its use ... perfect match. CORRECT.**
- (D) showing that some historians' adoption of a particular methodology has led to criticism of recent historical scholarship ... **the passage does not present any criticism on part of anyone anywhere ... no historians are shown to have adopted the methodology ... 'historical scholarship' is not a part of the passage**
- (E) analyzing the influence of current feminist views on women's interpretations of their experience ... **the passage contains only the current feminist theory not their views ... the passage is about the use of oral narratives of which women's interpretations of their experience is a part of not vice versa ... the concern presented in the passage is not part of this answer option**

According to the passage, scholars of women's history should refrain from doing which of the following?

- (A) Relying on traditional historical sources when women's oral narratives are unavailable ... **nothing in the passage suggests that oral narratives are the only reliable source of information and other sources are to be discarded in case oral narratives are unavailable**
- (B) Focusing on the influence of political rhetoric on women's perceptions to the exclusion of other equally important factors ... **the passage is never seen to instruct the women's scholars regarding how they should consider the influencing factors ... nothing in the passage also suggests that the scholars are likely to focus in political rhetoric to the exclusion of all others ... political rhetoric merely forms a part of an example**
- (C) Attempting to discover the cultural and historical factors that influence the stories women tell ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the historical factors such as the political rhetoric of the time should be ignored**
- (D) Assuming that the conventions of women's written autobiographies are similar to the conventions of women's oral narratives ... **lines 14 – 17 confirm that the conventions of the two are on similar lines in that both are equally likely to present a biased commentary**
- (E) Accepting women's oral narratives less critically than they accept women's written histories ... **lines 12 – 14 confirm that the passage suggests that both be subjected to a similar degree of scrutiny before being accepted ... thus this is what they ought to refrain from doing ... CORRECT**

According to the passage, each of the following is a difference between women's oral narratives and most standard histories EXCEPT:

- (A) Women's oral histories validate the significance of women's achievements ... **lines 8 – 9 of the passage ... women's contributions**
- (B) Women's oral histories depict experience from the point of view of women ... **mentioned in line 8 of the passage**
- (C) Women's oral histories acknowledge the influence of well-known women ... **not mentioned anywhere in relevant context ... well-known women are not a part of the passage ... thus CORRECT**
- (D) Women's oral histories present today's women with a sense of their historical relationship to women of the past ... **mentioned in line 10 ... historical continuity**
- (E) Women's oral histories are crucial to the collective identity of today's women ... **mentioned in line 11 of the passage**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 92)

The professionalization of the study of history in the second half of the nineteenth century, including history's transformation from a literary genre to a scientific discipline, had important consequences not

Line 5 only for historians' perceptions of women but also for women as historians. The disappearance of women as objects of historical studies during this period has

elements of irony to it. On the one hand, in writing about women, earlier historians had relied not on

Line 10 firsthand sources but rather on secondary sources; the shift to more rigorous research methods required that secondary sources be disregarded. On the other

hand, the development of archival research and the critical editing of collections of documents began to

Line 15 reveal significant new historical evidence concerning women, yet this evidence was perceived as

substantially irrelevant: historians saw political history as the general framework for historical writing.

Because women were seen as belonging to the private

Line 20 rather than to the public sphere, the discovery of documents about them, or by them, did not, by itself, produce history acknowledging the contributions of women. In addition, genres such as biography and

Line 25 memoir, those forms of "particular history" that women had traditionally authored, fell into disrepute.

The dividing line between "particular history" and general history was redefined in stronger terms,

**Comment [RN240]:** This is something that the author shall take up in the remaining of the passage to expand on in greater detail ... how do we know this at this very juncture itself ... notice how as soon as the author finishes this sentence he continues on without the use of any contrast words ... this means that he wishes to continue in this very direction to expand on it further ...

**Comment [RN241]:** Consequence #1

**Comment [RN242]:** Consequence #2

**Comment [RN243]:** Consequence #3



widening the gulf between amateur and professional practices of historical research.

**Author:** NO OPINION (*purely factual nature of the passage ...*)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces that a particular change has led to certain impacts on women's history writing and women historians in general. The author then expands on this point to describe those consequences of the change.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) describing some effects of the professionalization of the study of history on the writing of women's history ... **this is exactly what the passage concerns itself with ... the consequences of the professionalization on the writing of women's history. CORRECT.**
- (B) explaining some reasons for the professionalization of the writing of history ... **the passage only mentions that the professionalization occurs in the latter half of the nineteenth century ... he never speaks on what prompted these changes**
- (C) discussing the kinds of historical writing traditionally practiced by women ... **the historical writings practiced by women are never classified into different types ... the kinds are not a part of the passage**
- (D) contrasting the approach to the writing of history taken by women with the approach taken by men ... **the passage is not a contrasting passage ... men as a specific group of individuals taking up writing of history is not part of the passage ... the passage does not take the structure where one para describes the approach of women and the other of men**
- (E) **criticizing (implies opinion and negative tone)** certain changes that occurred in the writing of history during the second half of the nineteenth century ... **the author is more keen on putting out the consequences of the change (professionalization), and not changes, objectively (without involving his own judgement) rather than criticizing the changes (by maybe saying that they shouldn't have happened)**

Which of the following best describes one of the "elements of irony" referred to in the highlighted text?

- (A) Although the more scientific-minded historians of the second half of the nineteenth century considered women appropriate subjects for historical writing, earlier historians did not ... **never does the passage imply that the irony lies in the differing attitudes of historians from two different time periods in history**
- (B) Although archival research uncovered documentary evidence of women's role in history, historians continued to rely on secondary sources for information about women ... **lines 11 – 12 confirm that with the shift towards more rigorous research methods, the secondary sources were discarded and not relied on continually as this option mentions**

- (C) Although historians were **primarily (extreme as per the passage – AVOID)** concerned with writing about the public sphere, they generally relegated women to the private sphere ... **the primary concern of the historians is not mentioned ... nowhere does the passage confirm that women were relegated to the private sphere ... the passage implies nothing as to the reason why women were seen as belonging to the private sphere**
- (D) The scientific approach to history revealed more information about women, but that information was ignored ... **lines 12 – 17 confirm this answer option ... though the archival and critical editing practice revealed significant new evidence, that evidence was discarded ... thus CORRECT**
- (E) The professionalization of history, while marginalizing much of women's writing about history, enhanced the importance of women as historical subjects ... **never is it implied from the passage that the importance of women as historical subjects saw an enhancement ... rather lines 6 – 8 suggest quite the contrary**

According to the passage, the development of archival research and the critical editing of collections of documents had which of the following effects?

- (A) Historians increasingly acknowledged women's contributions to history ... **the women being seen as constituting the private sphere was a reason why women's contributions to history was not acknowledged ... this is 180 degrees**
- (B) Historians began to debate whether secondary sources could provide reliable information ... **the secondary sources are mentioned to be discarded as a requirement ... the passage says nothing about any sort of debate**
- (C) Historians began to apply less rigorous scientific research criteria to the study of women's history ... **nothing from the passage confirms this option ... the rigor is never seen to ease off**
- (D) More evidence concerning women became available to historical researchers ... **lines 12 – 16 confirm that archival research and critical editing revealed significant new historical evidence ... CORRECT**
- (E) Women began to study history as professional historians ... **women taking up history as a profession is absurd in context of the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 93)

Comparable worth, as a standard applied to eliminate

inequities in pay, insists that the values of certain

tasks performed in dissimilar jobs can be compared.

In the last decade, this approach has become a critical

- Line 5 **social policy issue**, as large numbers of private-sector firms and industries as well as federal, state, and local governmental entities have adopted comparable worth policies or begun to consider doing so.
- This **widespread** institutional awareness of comparable
- Line 10 worth indicates **increased public awareness** that pay inequities—that is, situations in which pay is not "fair" because it does not reflect the true value of a job—exist in the labor market. **However** (**CONTRAST WORD**), the question still remains: have the gains already made in pay equity
- Line 15 under comparable worth principles been of a **precedent-setting nature (... +ve tone)** or are they mostly transitory, a function of concessions made by employers to **mislead female employees (... -ve tone)** into believing that they have made long-term pay equity gains?
- Line 20 Comparable worth pay adjustments are **indeed** precedent-setting (**... author's opinion**). Because of the principles driving them, **other mandates** that can be applied to reduce or eliminate unjustified pay gaps between male and female workers have not remedied perceived pay
- Line 25 inequities satisfactorily for the litigants in cases in which men and women hold different jobs. But whenever comparable worth principles are applied to pay schedules, perceived unjustified pay differences are eliminated. **In this sense, then, comparable worth**
- Line 30 **is more comprehensive (... +ve fact)** than other mandates, such as the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. **Neither compares tasks in dissimilar jobs (... +ve fact)** (that is, jobs across occupational

**Comment [RN244]:** Notice how this gives us a hint that the boldfaced above is what the author has chosen to discuss in the passage ... what is the exact nature of that discussion is something we'll narrow down on once we read a bit further ...

**Comment [RN245]:** Another similar hint as the one above ...

**Comment [RN246]:** Notice how putting forth all the facts about the policy mentioned in the first line of the passage, the author through the use of a contrast word introduces a balanced tone question ... the author through the contrast word signals that this is the very question that he shall be tending to in the entire passage ... the question, being an evaluation question that mainly assesses whether the policy serves on purpose or the other, tells us that the author shall follow forth with assessing the policy

**Comment [RN247]:** Notice how the author puts up facts that estimate the ability of the policy change to bring about a significant change ...

categories) in an effort to determine whether or not

Line 35 what is necessary to perform these tasks—know-how, problem-solving, and accountability—can be quantified in terms of its dollar value to the employer.

Comparable worth, on the other hand, takes as its premise that certain tasks in dissimilar jobs may

Line 40 require a similar amount of training, effort, and skill; may carry similar responsibility; may be carried on in an environment having a similar impact upon the worker; and may have a similar dollar value to the employer.

**Comment [RN248]:** Again the author's seen judging the nature or estimating the ability of the policy to impact change

**Author:** OPINION

**Tone:** BALANCED

The passage introduces a new policy (gaining widespread awareness) aimed at eliminating inequity (with regard to one's gender) in pay across dissimilar jobs. The author then checks it out as to the how significant an impact is the policy capable of bringing about. The passage throws of a scent of assessment ...

Notice that the author is not seen out rightly supporting the policy at all ... he just presents factual information that might help him better understand the answer to the assessment question in the passage.

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following most accurately states the central purpose of the passage?

- (A) To criticize (implies purely negative tone) the implementation of a new procedure ... the word procedure is not verified from the passage ... we're dealing with a policy
- (B) To assess the significance of a change in policy ... the passage does present an assessment of the impact through the policy. CORRECT
- (C) To illustrate (neutral and no opinion verb) how a new standard alters procedures ... the answer option is too definitive for the passage ... the option implies as if a new standard altering procedures is a common phenomenon and the passage illustrates that phenomenon ... the word procedures is not confirmed from the passage
- (D) To explain (neutral and no opinion verb) how a new policy is applied in specific cases ... the passage explains no such procedure ... the passage is not a procedure explanation passage

- (E) To summarize the **changes made to date (chronology answer - AVOID)** as a result of social policy ... **the passage does not present any synopsis of any sort ... changes as a result of social policy is not confirmed from the passage**

**According to the passage, which of the following is true of comparable worth as a policy?**

- (A) Comparable worth policy decisions in pay-inequity cases have often **failed (strongly negative tone)** to satisfy the complainants ... **the passage presents facts supportive of the policy ... line 30 is seen judging the policy as a more comprehensible one**
- (B) Comparable worth policies have been applied to both public-sector and private-sector employee pay schedules ... **this may be confirmed from lines 5 – 8. CORRECT**
- (C) Comparable worth as a policy has come to be widely **criticized (negative tone)** in the past decade ... **the passage does not harbour a negative tone towards the policy ... lines 4 – 5 mention that this policy has become a critical social issue ... this is least synonymous to saying what the answer option says**
- (D) Many employers have considered comparable worth as a policy but very few have actually adopted it ... **the ratio of those who've considered and those who've implemented is not inferable from the passage**
- (E) Early implementations of comparable worth policies resulted in only transitory gains in pay equity ... **the implementations are not laid out on a timeline ... transitory gains from the policy are not a part of the passage at all**

**Which of the following best describes an application of the principles of comparable worth as they are described in the passage?**

- (A) The current pay, rates of increase, and rates of promotion for female mechanics are compared with those of male mechanics ... **this option contains just one job ... we would prefer something that looks across dissimilar jobs**
- (B) The training, skills, and job experience of computer programmers in one division of a corporation are compared to those of programmers making more money in another division ... **the answer option fails to take into account the gender factor and is again not necessarily comparing employees in dissimilar jobs ... after all both division do deal with programmers**
- (C) The number of women holding top executive positions in a corporation is compared to the number of women available for promotion to those positions, and both tallies are matched to the tallies for men in the **same corporation ... comparing statistics like numbers which this option does is never a part of the policy as mentioned in the passage ... the policy compares similar amount of training, skill etc. ...**
- (D) The skills, training, and job responsibilities of the clerks in the township tax assessor's office are compared to those of the much better-paid township engineers ... **exactly ... this option succinctly attacks dissimilar jobs and mentions the exact parameter comparisons between the employees in the dissimilar jobs as mentioned in the passage. CORRECT.**
- (E) The working conditions of female workers in a hazardous-materials environment are reviewed and their pay schedules compared to those of all workers in **similar** environments across the nation ... **the policy never calls for a review of the employee's**

working conditions ... the answer option deals with same environment for both parties being compared

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 94)

Many United States companies believe that the **rising cost of employees' health care benefits has hurt the country's competitive position** in the global market by

**Comment [RN249]:** The issue faced ...

raising production costs and thus increasing the prices

Line 5 of exported and domestically sold goods. As a result,

these companies have **shifted health care costs to**

**employees** in the form of wage deductions or high deductibles. This strategy, **however** (CONTRAST WORD), has actually

**Comment [RN250]:** Their (as in the companies') best sought after solution ...

hindered companies' competitiveness. **For example,**

**Comment [RN251]:** Tells us that, well, their remedial action above hasn't quite seen the results intended ...

Line 10 cost shifting threatens employees' health because many do not seek preventive screening. Also, labor relations have been damaged: the percentage of

**Comment [RN252]:** Exemplification by the author of the passage to substantiate his point that the remedial action has not proved to be a viable solution to the issue

strikes in which health benefits were a major issue rose from 18 percent in 1986 to 78 percent in 1989.

*The passage is all factual up till this point ... note the narrative tone of the author!*

Line 15 Health care costs **can** be managed **more effectively** if companies intervene in the supply side of health care

delivery just as they do with other key suppliers (... **author's opinion!**):

**Comment [RN253]:** It is easy to see here that the use of the word 'can' here signifies a possibility! However, also note that this possibility is more subjective in nature than it is objective. This is clearly something that the author feels will be a better solution than the one applied above in the passage. This is the author's OPINION – it is purely something coming from the author's side when viewed in context of the rest of the passage. Note how the author goes further to exemplify his case in order to substantiate his stance... the opinion has to be a part of the main purpose of the passage!

strategies used to procure components necessary for production would work in procuring health care. **For**

Line 20 **example,** the make/buy decision—the decision



whether to produce or purchase parts used in making a product—can be applied to health care. At one company, for example, employees receive health care at an on-site clinic maintained by the company. The

Line 25 clinic fosters morale, resulting in a low rate of employees leaving the company. Additionally, the company has constrained the growth of health care costs while expanding medical services.

**Author: OPINION**

*suggestive in nature ... more like a recommendation on how to improve on something ...*

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents an issue that US companies face regarding managing their costs in light of the rising healthcare benefits costs of the employees. The author presents how they dealt with the issue and were unsuccessful. The author then proposes his solution to go about addressing the issue substantiating his stance.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) **providing (no opinion verb) support (implies positive tone) for a traditional theory ... there is no theory in the passage (just an issue and how it is being dealt with) ... certainly not a traditional theory**
- (B) **comparing (implies no opinion, the passage has one by the author) several explanations for a problem ... the passage is not a comparison passage at all ... the author does not provide with several reasons behind the occurrence of the problem ... the passage is more geared towards addressing the issue and solving it rather than discussing how it is caused**
- (C) **summarizing (no opinion verb) a well-known research study ... the passage does not contain a research study**
- (D) **recommending an alternative approach ... exactly ... after presenting the issue and the measures taken to address it, the author recommends his approach in the second para of the passage then. CORRECT.**
- (E) **criticizing (negative tone) the work of a researcher ... the passage does not introduce us with any researcher ... let alone his work being criticized**

The author of the passage asserts which of the following about managing health care costs in an effective manner?

- (A) Educating employees to use health care wisely is the **best (superlative – AVOID)** way to reduce health care costs ... **the passage says nothing about educating employees in any manner whatsoever**
- (B) Allowing employees to select health care programs is the **most (superlative – AVOID)** effective means of controlling health care costs ... **nothing in the passage suggests the author wants the employees to use their discretion regarding healthcare programs**
- (C) Companies should pass rising health care costs on to employees rather than to consumers of the companies' products ... **this is exactly what the author show the companies to have originally done in managing the issue of rising costs ... the author quite clearly advises against this approach ... 180 degrees answer**
- (D) Companies should use strategies in procuring health care similar to those used in procuring components necessary for production ... **this is exactly what the author asserts / suggests in lines 15 – 19 ... the author wants the companies to intervene in the supply side as it does with other key suppliers. CORRECT.**
- (E) Companies should control health care costs by reducing the extent of medical coverage rather than by shifting costs to employees ... **nothing in the passage hints towards the companies being advised to reduce the benefits**

Which of the following, if true, would provide the most support for the author's view about intervening on the supply side of health care?

- (A) Most companies do not have enough employees to make on-site clinics cost-effective ... **this obviously goes against the author's recommended strategy as it adds to a company's overall costs rather than trimming them**
- (B) Many companies with on-site clinics offer their employees the option of going outside the company's system to obtain health care ... **this isn't exactly the kind of intervention that the author has in mind ... the author never suggests making the onsite clinics optional ... this option gives little reason to believe that the overall costs will go down once the strategy is implemented**
- (C) The costs of establishing and running an on-site clinic are demonstrably higher than the costs of paying for health care from an outside provider ... **this option shows that intervening on the supply side actually sees the company's overall costs go up from what they were before**
- (D) Companies with health care clinics find that employees are unwilling to assist in controlling the costs of health care ... **again an option that gives us all the reason to believe that the costs are only going to increase once the author's recommended strategy is implemented**
- (E) Employees at companies with on-site clinics seek preventive screening and are thus less likely to delay medical treatment ... **lines 10 – 11 in the passage confirm that preventive screening was one reason why the first approach was not successful ... if more employees do seek preventive screening, it means they embrace the idea of on-**

site clinics, which is thus likely to be a success thereby reducing the company's health care benefits costs and thus overall costs. CORRECT.

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 95)

Dendrochronology, the study of tree-ring records to glean information about the past, is possible because each year a tree adds a new layer of wood between the existing wood and the bark. In temperate and subpolar climates, cells added at the growing season's start are large and thin-walled, but later the new cells that develop are smaller and thick-walled; the growing season is followed by a period of dormancy. When a tree trunk is viewed in cross section, a boundary line is normally visible between the small-celled wood added at the end of the growing season in the previous year and the large-celled spring wood of the following year's growing season. The annual growth pattern appears as a series of larger and larger rings. In wet years rings are broad; during drought years they are narrow, since the trees grow less. Often, ring patterns of dead trees of different, but overlapping, ages can be correlated to provide an extended index of past climate conditions.

**However (CONTRAST WORD)**, trees that grew in areas with a steady supply of groundwater show little variation in ring width from year to year; these "complacent" rings tell nothing about changes in climate. And trees in

**Comment [RN254]:** The author changes course in the following passage by taking on a few difficulties that one might encounter while applying the concept explained above to certain exceptional cases ... the limitations however stay restricted to a few cases only - steady groundwater supply regions, extremely dry regions etc.

extremely dry regions may go a year or two without

Line 25 adding any rings, thereby introducing **uncertainties** into the count. Certain species sometimes add more than one ring in a single year, when growth halts temporarily and then starts again.

**Author:** NO OPINION (*passage completely factual in nature ...*)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author takes up the study of Dendrochronology and explains how the concept underlying the study can be utilized to infer the climatic conditions that the tree might have borne witness to. The passage, especially para 1, is of an explanatory nature wherein the author helps one understand how the climatic conditions in the past may be inferred from the elements of the study. The second para just complements the first to provide cases where one might face trouble applying the concept as straightforwardly as explained

### QUESTIONS

The passage suggests which of the following about the ring patterns of two trees that grew in the same area and that were of different, but overlapping, ages?

- (A) The rings corresponding to the overlapping years would often exhibit similar patterns ... **lines 16 – 19 mention that the overlapping regions can have their ring patterns correlated meaning that for the years in which both were alive both are expected to have similar patterns ... thus CORRECT**
- (B) The rings corresponding to the years in which only one of the trees was alive would not reliably indicate the climate conditions of those years ... **the passage does not deal in the timeframe where one is alive and the other is dead ... nothing of this time period can be inferred from the passage**
- (C) The rings corresponding to the overlapping years would exhibit similar patterns only if the trees were of the same species ... **that the trees have to be of the same species is not a restriction that the passage stipulates**
- (D) The rings corresponding to the overlapping years could not be complacent rings ... **'complacent rings' are part of the second paragraph, nowhere near where overlapping ages are discussed ... the passage stipulates no connection between the two**
- (E) The rings corresponding to the overlapping years would provide a more reliable index of dry climate conditions than of wet conditions ... **mathematical answer ... infused comparison where there is none ... the overlapping ages provide a reliable index of both conditions ... but not of one more reliably than the other ... such is not inferable from the passage**

In the highlighted text, "uncertainties" refers to

- (A) dendrochronologists' failure (implies negative tone towards the dendrochronologists) to consider the prevalence of erratic weather patterns ... erratic weather patterns are not a part of the passage
- (B) inconsistencies introduced because of changes in methodology ... changes in methodology are not mentioned in the passage ... even the study that is mentioned is never mentioned to have any inconsistencies
- (C) some tree species' tendency to deviate from the norm ... firstly the tree are never taken up in terms of specific species in the passage ... secondly 'a tendency to deviate from the norm' is more like an inherent / internal property of the tree itself rather than an external one for instance the one described in the passage which is due to the tree being in an extremely dry region ... moreover, the word uncertainties in the passage is mentioned for a property that can be counted ... this option is not countable
- (D) the lack of detectable variation in trees with complacent rings ... the uncertainties mentioned are in the estimation of the age of the tree not in inferring the detectable variation to account for climatic change
- (E) the lack of perfect correlation between the number of a tree's rings and its age ... exactly ... the passage mentions that because of missing out on a few rings there may be an inaccurate count of the tree's age. CORRECT

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) evaluating (signifies a balanced tone) the effect of climate on the growth of trees of different species ... the growth in the passage is more of the ring patterns inside the trunk of the tree rather than the growth of the tree itself ... different species are never taken up in the passage ... and neither is their growth ever evaluated in light of changing climatic conditions
- (B) questioning (implies negative tone) the validity of a method used to study tree-ring records ... the study to use the tree patterns to deduce climatic conditions is taken up in the passage, however, a method to study the tree-ring records as such is never a part of the passage
- (C) explaining how climatic conditions can be deduced from tree-ring patterns ... this is exactly the concept that the passage is dedicated to explaining. CORRECT ... use of the ring patterns to comment on the history of climatic conditions that the region might have seen.
- (D) outlining (red flag – AVOID) the relation between tree size and cell structure within the tree ... the passage does not even dedicate a single word to discussing the connection between a tree's size and its cell structure
- (E) tracing the development (chronology answer – AVOID) of a scientific method of analyzing tree-ring patterns ... the tree ring patterns are discussed in the passage with the intention of understanding what they might imply ... however, there is never any method (as in a step by step procedure) to analyse the patterns

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 96)

What kinds of property rights apply to Algonquian family hunting territories, and how did they come to

be? The dominant **view (...perspective #1)** in recent decades has been

that family hunting territories, like other forms of

Line 5 private landownership, were not found among Algonquians (a group of North American Indian tribes)

before contact with Europeans but are the result of

changes in Algonquian society brought about by the

European-Algonquian fur trade, in combination with

Line 10 other factors such as ecological changes and consequent shifts in wildlife harvesting patterns.

Another **view (...perspective #2)** claims that Algonquian family hunting

territories predate contact with Europeans and are

forms of private landownership by individuals and

Line 15 families. **More recent fieldwork (...perspective #3), however (CONTRAST WORD)**, has shown

that individual and family rights to hunting territories

form part of a larger land-use system of multifamilial

hunting groups, that rights to hunting territories at this

larger community level take precedence over those at

Line 20 the individual or family level, and that this system

reflects a concept of spiritual and social reciprocity that

conflicts with European concepts of private property.

In short, there are now strong reasons to think that it

was erroneous to claim that Algonquian family hunting

Line 25 territories ever were, or were becoming, a kind of

private property system.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Comment [RN255]:** This is precisely the question that will be addressed in the rest of the passage as different perspectives held about the answer to the question ... thus the very first line here forms the topic that the passage as a whole is going to take on ...

**Comment [RN256]:** The third perspective here is more like one that supersedes the above two perspectives as it is based on hard factual evidence that suggests otherwise of an assumption underlying both the perspectives ... the idea of a private property system explaining the property rights is thoroughly doubted via this more recent fieldwork and hence the perspective supersedes the previous ones



**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces the topic of discussion posing it as a question. The author presents two views that are both commonly shown to answer the question up top within a private property ownership framework. The two views are supplanted by a third view based on recent work that gives strong reason to doubt that the concept of private ownership has anything to do with explaining the kind of property rights applied to the tribal territories.

The passage has a narrative tone attached to it ...

**QUESTIONS**

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) provide an explanation for an unexpected phenomenon ... **a phenomenon is more like an event or an occurrence ... nothing in the passage may be construed as an unexpected (contrary to the usual) phenomenon**
- (B) **suggest (implies opinion)** that a particular question has yet to be answered ... **nothing in the passage suggests that question posted up top has remained unanswered**
- (C) present a new perspective on an issue ... **this is exactly what the author does after he presents the two views ... he presents a perspective that supplants the older ones and being based on recent fieldwork, it is referred to as a new perspective. CORRECT.**
- (D) **defend (implies positive tone)** a traditional view from attack ... **nothing in the passage may be perceived as an attack on a view**
- (E) **reconcile (implies opinion by the author)** opposing sides of an argument ... **the two views are different ... however, nothing in the passage suggests that what they claim is exactly opposite of each other ... they're common to believe that private individual property concept can be applied to explain the tribes property rights**

It can be inferred from the passage that proponents of the view mentioned in the first highlighted text believe which of the following about the origin of Algonquian family hunting territories?

- (A) They evolved from multifamilial hunting territories ... **this is something that the new perspective would be on the same page with**
- (B) They are an outgrowth of reciprocal land-use practices ... **firstly, the social and spiritual reciprocity mentioned in line 21 is not exactly synonymous with reciprocity in land-use practices ... secondly, this is a part of the new perspective not the first one**
- (C) They are based on certain spiritual beliefs ... **spiritual reciprocity NOT beliefs is mentioned in context to the new perspective**
- (D) They developed as a result of contact with Europeans ... **lines 5 – 9 clearly suggest that the first view believed that hunting territories were the result of European-Algonquian fur trade ... thus CORRECT**
- (E) They developed as a result of trade with non-Algonquian Indian tribes ... **non-Algonquian Indian tribes are not a part of the passage ... no mention of them**

According to the passage, proponents of the view mentioned in the first highlighted portion of text and proponents of the view mentioned in the second highlighted portion of text both believe which of the following about Algonquian family hunting territories?

- (A) They are a form of private landownership ... **exactly ... although both differed on whether hunting territories were present before European contact both of them did believe that the Algonquian family hunting territories were a form of private landownership ... CORRECT**
- (B) They are a form of community, rather than individual, landownership ... **this is something that the new perspective believed in ... the above two views believed the territories to be of the individual and landownership form**
- (C) They were a form of private landownership prior to contact with Europeans ... **this is in concurrence with only the second view not the first**
- (D) They became a form of private landownership due to contact with Europeans ... **this is only in concurrence with only the first view not the second**
- (E) They have replaced reciprocal practices relating to land use in Algonquian society ... **no such replacement is inferred from the content of the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 97)

Many people believe that because wages are lower in developing countries than in developed countries, competition from developing countries in goods traded internationally will soon eliminate large numbers of jobs in developed countries. Currently, developed

countries' advanced technology results in higher productivity, which accounts for their higher wages.

Advanced technology is being transferred ever more speedily across borders, but even with the latest

technology, productivity and wages in developing countries will remain lower than in developed countries for many years because developed countries have better infrastructure and better-educated workers (... **potential strengthening fact**). When productivity in a developing country does catch

**Comment [RN257]:** A widely held view ... the rest what follows are verifiable / verified facts (not something the author believes but what he knows to be true) that have the potential to strengthen or weaken the wide held view

**Comment [RN258]:** If the gap in wages (which are essentially understood as cost incurred to a firm or a company) is large and remains the above prediction might actually be true as the goods produced in developing countries can be offered at a much lower price on the international market thereby wiping out competition from the developed nations.

Line 15 up, experience suggests that wages there will rise (... **potential weakening fact**).  
 Some individual firms in developing countries have  
 raised their productivity (... **potential strengthener** ...) but kept their wages (which  
 are influenced by average productivity in the country's  
 economy) low. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, in a developing country's

Line 20 economy as a whole, productivity improvements in  
 goods traded internationally are likely to cause an  
 increase in wages (... **potential weakener**). **Furthermore (transition word)**, if wages are not  
 allowed to rise, the value of the country's currency will  
 appreciate (... **potential weakener**), which (from the developed countries' point

Line 25 of view) is the equivalent of increased wages in the  
 developing country. **And (transition word)** although in the past a few  
 countries have deliberately kept their currencies  
 undervalued, that is now much harder to do in a world  
 where capital moves more freely (... **potential weakener**).

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

Although the passage does see a number of potential weakening and strengthening fact, bear in mind that it is not the author who is strengthening (*maybe like supporting ... implying a positive tone by the author*) or weakening (*maybe like undermining ... implying a negative tone by the author*) the view above. The author is making no direct comment on the view presented in the beginning. The author very subtly manages to stay out of the entire discussion by adopting a neutral stance to the view. It is like making available tools to someone to work on a particular view.

The author begins the passage by introducing a widely held view regarding the possibility of elimination of a large number of jobs in developed countries. What follow from then on is a series of facts that when considered individually each has the potential to either strengthen or weaken the widely held view (an opinion, which is always debatable).

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) **identify the origin (more geared towards a chronology answer)** of a common misconception ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the view held by many in the beginning of the passage is a misconception ... to label it misconception is too**

**Comment [RN259]:** If the gap in wages converges and narrows down, the cost incurred in both the developing and developed nations would be the same because of which the products manufactured in developed nations will be successfully able to compete in the international market

assertive and definitive for a passage that presents the reader with the option to judge the validity of the view

- (B) discuss the implications of a generally accepted principle ... again nothing in the passage suggests that the view in the beginning of the passage is a principle (a law, a rule or an inevitable consequence) ... an implication refers to the conclusion that one may draw from something ... the rest of the passage is not seen deriving conclusions
- (C) present information relevant in evaluating (implies a mixture of strengtheners and weakeners) a commonly held belief ... each word verified ... the passage is all about giving you the right tools to evaluate the first sentence. CORRECT
- (D) defend (implies positive tone) a controversial assertion against a variety of counterarguments ... neither is the view in the beginning of the passage a controversial assertion nor does the passage contain any counterarguments
- (E) explain under what circumstances a well-known phenomenon occurs ... a phenomenon is more like an event or an occurrence in the past ... the very first sentence of the passage, which this option refers to as a phenomenon, is all about the future

The passage suggests that if the movement of capital in the world were restricted, which of the following would be likely?

- (A) Advanced technology could move more quickly from developed countries to developing countries ... technology moving across from developed to developing countries lies way up in the passage, whereas capital allowed to move freely is at the end ... moreover, the passage implies no connection between the two
- (B) Developed countries could compete more effectively for jobs with developing countries ... competition for jobs between developed and developing countries is not a part of the passage
- (C) A country's average wages could increase without significantly increasing the sophistication of its technology or the value of its currency ... sophistication of technology is never explicitly or implicitly connected with the free flow of capital ... best we avoid this answer
- (D) A country's productivity could increase without significantly increasing the value of its currency ... according to the passage an increase in a country's productivity is likely to increase the average wages which if deliberately allowed to remain low would lead to an increase in the value of its currency ... the last sentence of the passage mentions that it would be a lot tougher to deliberately keep wages low in such a scenario without a significant increase in currency value were the capital allowed to move freely ... the opposite (basically what the option says) is thus inferable. CORRECT
- (E) Workers could obtain higher wages by increasing their productivity ... according to the passage wages are influenced by the average productivity in a country's economy, therefore simply increasing their productivity does not see them increase their wage regardless of whether capital is restricted or not

The passage suggests that which of the following would best explain why, in a developing country, some firms that have raised their productivity continue to pay low wages?

- (A) Wages are influenced by the extent to which productivity increases are based on the latest technology ... **the passage talks of productivity increases in general ... the passage never categorises productivity increases on the basis of what they're based on**
- (B) Wages are influenced by the extent to which labor unions have organized the country's workers ... **labor unions are not a part of the passage**
- (C) Wages are not determined by productivity improvements in goods traded internationally ... **again productivity improvements are not categorized according to what goods the productivity improvements occur in (goods traded nationally and those traded internationally)**
- (D) The average productivity of the workers in the country has not risen ... **lines 17 – 19 confirm that wages are influenced by the average productivity in a country's economy ... the option thus accurately explains why the wages have not risen. CORRECT**
- (E) The education level of the workers in the country determines wages ... **there is never any connection in the passage between the education level and average wages paid to the workers**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 98)

A recent study has provided clues to predator-prey dynamics in the late Pleistocene era. Researchers compared the number of tooth fractures in present-day carnivores with tooth fractures in carnivores that

Line 5 lived 36,000 to 10,000 years ago and that were preserved in the Rancho La Brea tar pits in Los Angeles. The breakage frequencies in the extinct species were strikingly higher than those in the present-day species.

Line 10 In considering possible explanations for this finding, the researchers dismissed demographic bias because older individuals were not overrepresented in the fossil

**Comment [RN260]:** The research finding that the author takes forward in the following paragraph to expand on ...

**Comment [RN261]:** Ruled out ...

samples. They rejected **preservational bias** because a total absence of breakage in two extinct species

Comment [RN262]: Ruled out ...

Line 15 demonstrated that the fractures were not the result of abrasion within the pits. They ruled out **local bias**

Comment [RN263]: Ruled out ...

because breakage data obtained from other Pleistocene sites were similar to the La Brea data. The explanation they consider most plausible is **behavioral**

Line 20 **differences** between extinct and present-day carnivores—in particular, more contact between the teeth of predators and the bones of prey due to more thorough consumption of carcasses by the extinct species. Such thorough carcass consumption implies

Comment [RN264]: The author presents the most logically possible factor that would explain the findings in the first paragraph ... the author thus seems to be discussing what the findings mean or imply about extinct carnivores in comparison to present day carnivores ...

Line 25 to the researchers either that prey availability was low, at least seasonally, or that there was intense competition over kills and a high rate of carcass theft due to relatively high predator densities.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces a research finding (more like an observation) about carnivores that existed some 36,000 to 10,000 years ago. The author then presents a logical step wise interpretation of the findings by researchers to share with us what the findings could possibly mean.

The passage is purely factual in nature ... gives off a purely narrative scent.

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) present several explanations for a well-known fact ... **the passage deals with a research finding not a well-known fact ... something that everyone's already been made aware of ... even for the finding the author presents the most plausible explanation rather than 'several'**
- (B) **suggest (implies opinion)** alternative methods for resolving a debate ... **there is no debate in the passage ... no alternative methods, rather no methods at all**
- (C) **argue (implies opinion by author) in favor (implies positive tone)** of a controversial theory ... **the passage has no theory, forget controversial**



- (D) **question (implies negative tone)** the methodology used in a study ... **the author seems to implicitly support the methodology as he presents no challenge to it and simply describes it as it is ... the methodology as such is not detailed**
- (E) discuss the implications of a research finding ... **this is exactly what the author does ... presents a research finding and discusses what the researchers make of it. CORRECT**

The passage suggests that, compared with Pleistocene carnivores in other areas, Pleistocene carnivores in the La Brea area

- (A) included the same species, in approximately the same proportions ... **carnivore species and their proportional composition as a whole has no mention of in the entire passage**
- (B) had a similar frequency of tooth fractures ... **lines 16 – 18 use the exact same observation when ruling out local bias. CORRECT**
- (C) populated the La Brea area more densely ... **the density of population is never compared ... nor is such a result implied**
- (D) consumed their prey more thoroughly ... **this difference is implied when comparing all Pleistocene carnivores with all present day carnivores**
- (E) found it harder to obtain sufficient prey ... **the scarcity of prey is implied as a plausible explanation for all Pleistocene carnivores and not just the ones whose fossils are found in the La Brea area**

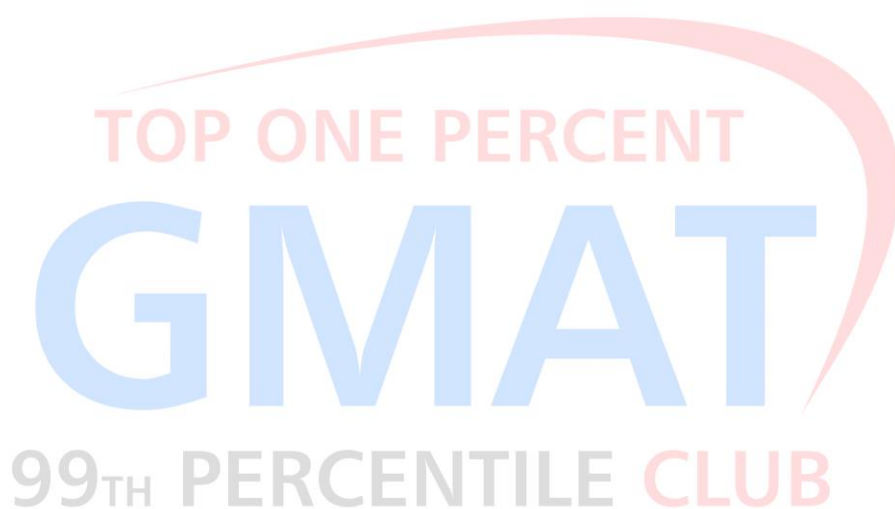
The passage suggests that tooth fractures in Pleistocene carnivores probably tended to occur less frequently

- (A) during periods in which more prey were available ... **line 25 can be used to infer that prey availability has a direct correlation with explaining the number of tooth fractures ... thus CORRECT**
- (B) at sites distant from the La Brea area ... **the frequency of tooth fractures is never seen to be varying with area / location where the fossils were found ... the local bias was ruled out as per the passage**
- (C) in older individual carnivores ... **the passage mentions that because older individuals were NOT overrepresented demographic bias was ruled out as an explanation for the high frequency of tooth fractures ... this clearly implies that the passage sees the older carnivores as ones with higher frequency of tooth fractures**
- (D) in species that were not preserved as fossils ... **such species are not a part of the passage**
- (E) in species that regularly stole carcasses from other species ... **the passage in its last sentence implies that higher the thefts, higher the frequency of tooth fractures**

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## PART III

RC LATEST DOCUMENT



SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 99)

The modern multinational corporation **is described** as

having originated when the owner-managers of

nineteenth-century British firms carrying on international

trade were replaced by teams of salaried managers

Line 5 organized into hierarchies. Increases in the volume of

transactions in such firms **are commonly believed** to have

necessitated this structural change. Nineteenth-century

inventions like the steamship and the telegraph, by

facilitating coordination of managerial activities, are

Line 10 described as key factors. Sixteenth- and seventeenth-

century chartered trading companies, **despite (CONTRAST WORD)** the

international scope of their activities, are usually

**considered irrelevant** to this discussion: the volume of

their transactions **is assumed** to have been too low and

Line 15 the communications and transport of their day too

primitive to make comparisons with modern

multinationals interesting.

In **reality, however (CONTRAST WORD)**, early trading companies successfully

purchased and outfitted ships, built and operated offices

Line 20 and warehouses, manufactured trade goods for use

abroad, maintained trading posts and production facilities

overseas, procured goods for import, and sold those

goods both at home and in other countries. The large

volume of transactions associated with these activities

Line 25 seems to have necessitated hierarchical management

structures well before the advent of modern

communications and transportation. **For example**, in the

**Comment [RN265]:** Passive voice ... someone else (unknown subject) is the doer of the action and not the author

**Comment [RN266]:** Passive voice ... again this is not the author believing (doing the action) but someone else (unknown entity)

**Comment [RN267]:** Passive voice yet again ... Signals slight discontent with the neglect highlighted here ... gives a slight clue that the author might be in a mood to take up this area of neglect for further discussion ...

**Comment [RN268]:** Note how every sentence in this paragraph exhibits passive voice ... THIS PARAGRAPH THUS EXHIBITS A PURELY NARRATIVE TONE.

**Comment [RN269]:** This along with the contrast word confirms that the author wishes to talk about the ignored area ... in this entire paragraph the author discusses similarities between the earlier trading companies and modern MNCs to build a case for arguing that the earlier neglected area might deserve some attention ...

**Comment [RN270]:** The author is substantiating the fact that considerable and worthy similarities exist between the structural functioning of the two ...

Hudson's Bay Company, each far-flung trading outpost was managed by a salaried agent, who carried out the trade with the Native Americans, managed day-to-day operations, and oversaw the post's workers and servants.

One chief agent, answerable to the Court of Directors in London through the correspondence committee, was appointed with control over all of the agents on the bay.

The early trading companies did differ strikingly from modern multinationals in many respects. They depended heavily on the national governments of their home countries and thus characteristically acted abroad to promote national interests. Their top managers were

typically owners with a substantial minority share, whereas senior managers' holdings in modern multinationals are usually insignificant. They operated in a preindustrial world, grafting a system of capitalist international trade onto a premodern system of artisan and peasant production.

Despite these differences, however (CONTRAST WORD), early trading companies organized effectively in remarkably modern ways and merit further study as analogues of more modern structures (... *author's opinion* / *personal belief*).

#### Author: OPINION

*the author expresses his viewpoint or his stance ...*

#### Tone: NEUTRAL

The passage structure may be construed as follows:

**PARA 1** ... purely in passive voice ... narrative (factual) in nature ... the author takes the opportunity here to present an area left out of a particular discussion, something that is surprising given that the area might considerably share an aspect (international scope)

**PARA 2** ... sees the author presenting all the evidence that he feels necessary in order to substantiate his case that the area of neglect is indeed surprising

**Comment [RN271]:** The author presents the differences above to point out that the differences that did exist between the pre-modern trading companies and the modern MNCs, provide little hindrance in making the comparison between their functioning / operating structure more interesting and more resourceful.

**Comment [RN272]:** The contrast word along with the author pointing to a remarkable similarity assures us that the author shall soon present his opinion on the whole issue ... he shall soon present the MAIN reason he wrote the passage and introduced all the facts above ...

**Comment [RN273]:** Should definitely be a part of the 'main point' of the passage!

**PARA 3** ... sees the author switching over to active voice ... the author takes up differences here to inform the reader that the differences (which actually do exist) should not be the reason to not consider the pre-modern trading companies as analogues of modern MNCs. He explicitly presents this as his opinion.

The author feels strongly about how the pre-modern chartered trading companies do not factor into the mix of ingredients that gave rise to the MNCs in the nineteenth century!

### QUESTIONS

The author's main point is that

- (A) modern multinationals **originated** (option throws off a chronology related answer scent) in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries with the establishment of chartered trading companies ... this option is too assertive in nature ... the author never in the passage definitively says that the modern MNC birth should be traced to the sixteenth / seventeenth century ... the author is merely saying that data considered irrelevant to the discussion regarding the origin of MNC, deserves some consideration at least
- (B) the success of early chartered trading companies, like that of modern multinationals, depended **primarily** (a bit extreme – AVOID) on their ability to carry out complex operations ... the author never in the passage is least bothered with the factors contributing to the success of either the trading companies or the modern MNCs. The author is more is more concerned about making comparison on the way the two operated
- (C) early chartered trading companies should be more seriously considered by scholars studying the origins of modern multinationals ... **CORRECT. The author feels that pre-modern chartered trading companies maybe share more of an influence (than is currently regarded) in necessitating the structural change that gave birth to modern MNCs ... he thus feels that the trading companies should be taken more seriously**
- (D) scholars are **quite mistaken** (implies at least an implied criticism) concerning the origins of modern multinationals ... the author never says or implies anything as bold as this statement. The author is at odds with how some seemingly relevant premise is perceived as irrelevant by the scholars and not with what the scholars have to conclude especially about the origins of the modern MNCs.
- (E) the management structures of early chartered trading companies are fundamentally the same as those of modern multinationals ... the author in the very first sentence acknowledges the fact that it is the MNCs that structurally differed from the trading companies in that they had the concept of hierarchy in their management structure ... again it is not the structural similarity that the author is seen pursuing in the passage but the similarity in the organizational efficacy in handling international businesses

With which of the following generalizations regarding management structures would the author of the passage most probably agree?

- (A) Hierarchical management structures are the **most** (superlative – AVOID) efficient management structures possible in a modern context ... the passage is not one that measures the degree of efficiency of management structures ... especially a relative

**measure of the degree among various possible management structures in the modern context**

- (B) Firms that routinely have a high volume of business transactions find it necessary to adopt hierarchical management structures ... **lines 23 – 27 and lines 5 – 7 confirm that it is the high volume of business transactions that pretty much governs the need for the adoption a hierarchical management structure felt by the firm ... thus CORRECT**
- (C) Hierarchical management structures cannot be successfully implemented without modern communications and transportation ... **lines 7 – 10 confirm that modern communications by facilitating coordination of managerial activities is a key factor that necessitated the change towards a hierarchical structure, however, this does not imply that modern transportation and communications is a necessary factor for the implementation of hierarchical management structures**
- (D) Modern multinational firms with a relatively small volume of business transactions usually do not have hierarchically organized management structures ... **the passage only deals with firms that have large volume of business transactions saying that large volume of transactions usually see a firm having to adopt a hierarchical structure ... however, nothing can be inferred about firms with small volume of business transactions in this regard ... maybe they too require a hierarchically organized management structure for say some other reason ... other than the volume of transactions being handled by them**
- (E) Companies that adopt hierarchical management structures usually do so in order to facilitate expansion into foreign trade ... **lines 23 – 27 and lines 5 – 7 confirm that the adoption of hierarchical management structure has everything to do with large volume of transactions and not considerably much with expansion into foreign trade ... another doubtful aspect here is that expansion into foreign trade does not necessarily imply a large volume of business transactions**

**The passage suggests that modern multinationals differ from early chartered trading companies in that**

- (A) the top managers of modern multinationals own stock in their own companies rather than simply receiving a salary ... **lines 41 – 42 of the passage confirm that senior managers of modern MNCs hold insignificant shares (signifying their share of ownership) in their companies ... thus 180 degrees answer**
- (B) modern multinationals depend on a system of capitalist international trade rather than on less modern trading systems ... **the dependence on any sort of trading systems of the modern MNCs is not a part of the passage at all**
- (C) modern multinationals have operations in a number of different foreign countries rather than merely in one or two ... **nothing in the passage implies that the two differed in the extent of their reach in the international market (especially in terms of the countries they each tapped)**
- (D) the operations of modern multinationals are highly profitable despite the more stringent environmental and safety regulations of modern governments ... **environmental and safety regulations is not a part of the discussion in the passage**



and neither is each (the modern MNCs and the earlier trading companies) one's profitability.

- (E) the overseas operations of modern multinationals are not governed by the national interests of their home countries ... **this is one of the point that the passage mentions that the earlier trading companies differed on ... this option is verified word by word from lines 36 – 39 in the passage. CORRECT.**

According to the passage, early chartered trading companies are usually described as

- (A) irrelevant to a discussion of the origins of the modern multinational corporation ... **this option clearly states the meaning of the sentence in lines 10 – 13 of the passage ... rather this option is a direct paraphrase of what is mentioned in those lines ... thus CORRECT.**
- (B) interesting but ultimately **too (a bit extreme)** unusual to be good subjects for economic study ... **lines 15 – 17 of the passage assert that it is the comparison between the two (and not the companies themselves) that are perceived uninteresting (and not interesting as mentioned in the option) ... any sort of 'economic study' is not a part of the passage here**
- (C) analogues of nineteenth-century British trading firms ... **nineteenth-century British trading firms are not a part of the passage ... forget their analogues**
- (D) rudimentary and very early forms of the modern multinational corporation ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the early trading companies were construed as early forms of modern MNCs**
- (E) important national institutions because they existed to further the political aims of the governments of their home countries ... **this is a feature of the earlier trading companies that is described in the passage, however, only to highlight their differences with the modern MNCs ... nothing in the passage suggests that they were viewed as 'important' national institutions**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 100)

More selective than most chemical pesticides in that  
they ordinarily destroy only unwanted species,  
biocontrol agents (such as insects, fungi, and viruses)  
eat, infect, or parasitize targeted plant or animal pests.

Line 5 **However (CONTRAST WORD),** biocontrol agents can negatively affect  
nontarget species by, **for example,** competing with

**Comment [RN274]:** The author presents here a cautionary tone towards the use of seemingly more beneficial (in that they're more selective in nature) biocontrol agents ... through the contrast word and the 'for example' bold faced we realize in the very beginning what the author is going to take up for discussion in the passage ...

them for resources: a biocontrol agent might reduce the benefits conferred by a desirable animal species by consuming a plant on which the animal prefers to lay

Line 10 its eggs. Another example of indirect negative consequences occurred in England when a virus introduced to control rabbits reduced the amount of open ground (because large rabbit populations reduce the ground cover), in turn reducing underground ant

Line 15 nests and triggering the extinction of a **blue butterfly** that had depended on the nests to shelter its offspring. The paucity of known extinctions or disruptions resulting from indirect interactions may reflect not the infrequency of such mishaps but rather

Line 20 the failure to look for or to detect them (... author's opinion): most organisms likely to be adversely affected by indirect interactions are of little or no known commercial value and the events linking a biocontrol agent with an adverse effect are often unclear. Moreover (transitional word),

Line 25 determining the potential risks of biocontrol agents before they are used is difficult, especially when a nonnative agent is introduced, because, unlike a chemical pesticide, a biocontrol agent may adapt in unpredictable ways so that it can feed on or otherwise

Line 30 harm new hosts.

**Author: OPINION** (more persuasive in nature)

The author presents his concern first, shares with us his scepticism (his opinion) and then presents a bucket full of evidence / premise to have one convinced or to back his concern ... this is a clear case of persuasion via presenting an argument

**Comment [RN275]:** Note the suggestive tone put forth by the author ... the author exclusively FEELS that just because there are no records of known extinctions (paucity) doesn't mean that the agents are free of danger ... this is like someone being apprehensive about an idea ... that apprehension has to be limited to that person alone and hence becomes his belief / feeling / OPINION

**Comment [RN276]:** The author is seen furthering evidence to support his own stance ... as if trying to convince the reader to share his view

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

Note, however, that the author at no point criticises the agents ... only presents his concern and tries to warn us from welcoming the use of the agents with open arms

The author introduces the more selective bio-control agents and cautions us of some of the possibly negative effects that these agents might have. The author then asserts that just because known extinctions are not recorded doesn't mean that they're safe but rather that the risks are not easily recognizable. He backs his claim with his account of things

**QUESTIONS**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) explaining (implies a no opinion passage) why until recently scientists failed to recognize the risks presented by biocontrol agents ... firstly there is no mention of any scientists in the passage ... the why in the answer option implies that the passage is more on the lines of discussing the techniques used by scientists if any and explaining where they faltered
- (B) emphasizing that biocontrol agents and chemical pesticides have more similarities than differences ... they only difference anywhere in the passage is in the first line where the author calls the agents more selective ... there is no similarity at all in the passage ... most importantly the passage is never about relatively counting the similarities and differences
- (C) suggesting that only certain biocontrol agents should be used to control plant or animal pests ... the passage makes no such suggestion ... the author never singles out any agents that he might have an issue with ... his concern is directed towards all the agents as per the passage
- (D) arguing that biocontrol agents involve risks (portrays the cautionary tone), some of which may not be readily discerned ... subtly put ... this is what the author is seen doing in the passage ... presenting his argument to convince the reader that the paucity reflects the failure to look for or to detect the mishaps and hence the risks involved ... CORRECT
- (E) suggesting that mishaps involving biocontrol agents are relatively commonplace ... the word commonplace gives this answer away as the wrong option ... the author does imply (in line 19) that one might underestimate the frequency by looking at only the known records of such extinctions ... however, this does NOT mean that the other extreme is true – i.e. the frequency is so high that the mishaps are commonplace

According to the passage, which of the following is a concern that arises with biocontrol agents but not with chemical pesticides?

- (A) Biocontrol agents are likely to destroy desirable species as well as undesirable ones ... the passage mentions in line 5 that the agents can negatively affect the desirable species ... this, however, is not synonymous to saying that they are likely to destroy

the desirable species ... moreover, nowhere does the passage assert that pesticides have no negative effect on the desirable species

- (B) Biocontrol agents are likely to have indirect as well as direct adverse effects on nontarget species ... the passage only concerns itself with indirect adverse effects on non-target species ... the direct adverse effects of the biocontrol agents if any are not a part of the passage
- (C) Biocontrol agents may change in unforeseen ways and thus be able to damage new hosts ... this is an exact paraphrase of lines 27 – 30 ... which also mention that this potential property of the agents is unlike that of the pesticides. CORRECT
- (D) Biocontrol agents may be ineffective in destroying targeted species ... the passage never talks of the biocontrol agents being ineffective at their job
- (E) Biocontrol agents may be effective for only a short period of time ... the time duration for which they may be effective is never a part of the passage ... moreover, it is never implied in the passage that chemical pesticides are effective for a longer duration as compared to the biocontrol agents

The passage suggests which of the following about the blue butterfly mentioned in the highlighted text?

- (A) The blue butterfly's survival was indirectly dependent on sustaining a rabbit population of a particular size ... this can accurately be inferred from lines 10 – 17 ... rather this is a summary of what the lines have to say. CORRECT
- (B) The blue butterfly's survival was indirectly dependent on sustaining large amounts (180 degrees) of vegetation in its habitat ... the butterfly's survival is said to be dependent on underground ant nests which in turn depended on ground cover most likely provided by the vegetation which the rabbits feed off of ... however, the passage mentions that large amounts of vegetation or ground cover was what was triggering the extinction of the butterflies indirectly ... thus the butterfly's survival was indirectly dependent on sustaining small amounts of vegetation
- (C) The blue butterfly's survival was threatened when the ants began preying on its offspring ... the ants are never mentioned to prey on the butterfly's offspring
- (D) The blue butterfly was infected by the virus that had been intended to control rabbit populations ... virus infection is also something not confirmed from the passage
- (E) The blue butterfly was adversely affected by a biocontrol agent that competed with it for resources ... this option presents more of a direct effect on the blue butterfly of the biocontrol agent ... the entire passage deals with the indirect effect a biocontrol agent may have on the non-target species

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 101)

Ethnohistoric documents from sixteenth-century Mexico suggesting that weaving and cooking were the most common productive activities for Aztec women **may** lead modern historians to underestimate the value of women's contributions to Aztec society. Since weaving and cooking occurred mostly (but not entirely) in a domestic setting, modern historians are **likely** to apply to the Aztec culture the modern Western distinction between "private" and "public" production. Thus, the ethnohistoric record conspires with Western culture to foster the view that women's production was not central to the demographic, economic, and political structures in sixteenth-century Mexico.

A closer examination of Aztec culture indicates that **treating Aztec women's production in Mexico in such a manner WOULD be a mistake (... opinion by the author)**. Even if the products of women's labor **did not circulate** beyond the household, such products were essential to population growth.

Researchers document a tenfold increase in the population of the valley of Mexico during the previous four centuries, an increase that was crucial to the developing Aztec political economy. Population growth—which could not have occurred in the absence of successful household economy, in which women's work was essential—made possible the large-scale development of labor-intensive chinampa (ridged-field)

**Comment [RN277]:** The author presents here a factual possibility ... he is not at all doubting the evidence but its potential interpretation thereby forming a potential misconception among the many scholars ... this possibility is not something that the author solely believes in ... this is not the opinion of the author ... this more like a factual concern from the author ...

**Comment [RN278]:** Again a measure of likelihood that is not constrained to the author's belief alone ... this is again a factual possibility ...

**Comment [RN279]:** The likely misconception as a result of the above ...

**Comment [RN280]:** Notice how presenting the misconception above, the author stresses on the fact that anyone interpreting the evidence in the manner explained above would be committing a mistake ... the entire rest of the passage is geared towards substantiating this particular stance put forward by the author ... note the judgemental nature of the statement

agriculture in the southern valley of Mexico which, in turn, supported urbanization and political centralization

Line 30 in the Aztec capital.

**But (CONTRAST WORD)** the products of women's labor **did in fact circulate**

beyond the household. Aztec women wove cloth, and cloth circulated through the market system, the tribute system, and the redistributive economy of the palaces.

Line 35 Cotton mantles served as a unit of currency in the regional market system. Quantities of woven mantles,

loincloths, blouses, and skirts were paid as tribute to

local lords and to imperial tax stewards and were

distributed to ritual and administrative personnel, craft

Line 40 specialists, warriors, and other faithful servants of the

state. In addition, woven articles of clothing served as

markers of social status and clothing fulfilled a

symbolic function in political negotiation. The cloth

that was the product of women's work thus was crucial

Line 45 as a primary means of organizing the flow of goods

and services that sustained the Aztec state.

**Author: OPINION**

*the author expresses his viewpoint or his stance ... displays subjectivity!*

**Tone: POSITIVE**

*The author (throughout the passage, especially the second and the third para) is supportive of the fact that 16<sup>th</sup> century Aztec women did contribute considerably to the growth of the Aztec society ... he thus portrays a positive tone in the passage towards them ...*

**The passage has the author bringing up a highly possible (as he feels) interpretation and thus suggesting that the evidence concerned might mislead the modern readers and analysts. The author makes his case here by saying out his opinion in defence of the Aztec Women's contribution and then presenting enough evidence to substantiate his case.**

**Comment [RN281]:** In this paragraph the author puts forth all the evidence to explain that even by considering women's labour as not extending beyond the household, the Aztec women did have an impact on society ...

**Comment [RN282]:** In this paragraph the author puts forth all the evidence to explain that their production of cloth did in fact go beyond the domestic realm ...



### QUESTIONS

The author of the passage would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about the documents mentioned in the first sentence of the passage?

- (A) They contain misleading information about the kinds of productive activities Aztec women engaged in ... **never does the author in the passage doubt the validity of the evidence or their credibility ... it is not the content of the documents that is misleading but the interpretation that might follow from the documents ... moreover, the contention is not over what kinds of activities the Aztec women pursued but over whether their activities contributed to the society considerably or not**
- (B) They overlook certain crucial activities performed by women in Aztec society ... **again the credibility of the evidence as such is never doubted at all in the passage ... their reporting of the activities is just fine ... it is the flawed implications that one may draw out that the author is more concerned with in the passage**
- (C) They provide useful information about the way that Aztec society viewed women ... **nothing implying the perception of the Aztec Society towards their women is mentioned in the passage**
- (D) They are of limited value because they were heavily influenced by the bias of those who recorded them ... **nothing of such sort is mentioned in the passage ... the passage never discusses the documents to extent that he mentions how they were recorded ... this is again questioning the credibility of the documents, which according to the passage is perfectly fine**
- (E) They contain information that is likely to be misinterpreted by modern-day readers ... **exactly ... this is the only option that attacks the interpretation or the inference part of examining the document ... moreover, lines 10 – 14 confirm this option. CORRECT.**

According to the passage, Aztec women's cloth production enabled Aztec society to do which of the following?

- (A) Expand women's role in agriculture ... **agriculture is part of the third para and cloth production a part of the third ... the two have absolutely no connection between them**
- (B) Organize the flow of goods and services ... **option confirmed from lines 43 – 46 of the passage. CORRECT.**
- (C) Develop self-contained communities ... **such communities are not a part of the discussion of the passage**
- (D) Hire agricultural laborers from outside the society ... **no such hiring practices being employed by Aztec Women is seen in the passage**
- (E) Establish a higher standard of living than neighboring cultures ... **neighbouring cultures are not a part of the discussion in the passage**

Which of the following best describes the function of the third paragraph of the passage?

- (A) It attempts to reconcile conflicting views presented in the previous paragraphs ... **the passage is not a reconciliation passage ... just because the para begins with the**

contrast word 'BUT' doesn't mean that there's a reconciliation going on ... the passage does not contain more than one (that of the author) views

- (B) It presents evidence intended to undermine the argument presented in the second paragraph ... the only argument presented anywhere in the passage is one through which the author calls to our attention the possible misinterpretation ... the author would obviously never present evidence undermining his own argument
- (C) It provides examples that support the position taken in the first sentence of the second paragraph ... the position taken is the author's opinion in the passage ... and the entire second and third paras are taken up putting forth examples and evidences that substantiate the author's position. CORRECT.
- (D) It describes the contents of the documents mentioned in the first paragraph ... the contents of the passage are not even mentioned in the passage ... forget a description
- (E) It suggests that a distinction noted in the first paragraph is valid ... a distinction, implying a clearly marked (identifiable) difference, is not a part of the passage

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) using modern understanding of cultural bias to challenge ethnohistoric documents ... the passage never discredits or challenges the documents ... he is at odds with the potential misinterpretation
- (B) evaluating (signals a balanced tone) competing descriptions of women's roles in Aztec society ... the descriptions of women's role in the society are all in the form of examples that have a secondary purpose which is to support the author's position ... the descriptions if the examples may be called so are not of competing nature
- (C) comparing (no opinion neutral tone answer) the influence of gender on women's roles in Aztec society and in modern society ... the influence of gender on women's role is not a part of the discussion in the passage ... the passage is not a comparison passage
- (D) remedying (positive tone and an opinion by the author) a potential misconception about the significance of women's roles in Aztec society ... the author draws up a potential misconception and then clearly presents his case (beginning with his position) to clear the possible misconception of the contributions of the Aztec women to their society. CORRECT.
- (E) applying (no opinion neutral tone answer) new evidence in a reevaluation of ethnohistoric documents ... there is nothing in the passage that may be construed as a new evidence ... the passage does not even evaluate the documents, forget a re-evaluation

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 102)

Solar ponds are bodies of water in which circulation is incomplete and there is a very high salt concentration that increases with depth. This vertical change in salinity serves to trap heat because concentrated brine

Line 5 in the lowest water level acts as a collector and storage area for solar heat, while the less saline, lighter water at the upper levels provides insulation. Heat is thus retained in the depths.

Line 10 An artificial pond of this type has been constructed on the western shore of the Dead Sea in Israel in order to test its suitability as a source of low-grade heat for conversion into electricity. **An immediate threat to the success of the venture was the growth of algae.**

Line 15 Water in solar ponds must be kept maximally transparent to allow penetration of light to the deep storage area. Therefore, any particles of matter in the water, such as algae cells, that scatter or absorb light will interfere with the collection of heat.

Line 20 **One proposed method** of controlling the algae was the application of an algicide. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, the Dead Sea is a closed body of water without any outlet and as such is very easily contaminated. Extensive use of chemicals in numerous future full-scale solar ponds would lead to such contamination of the Dead Sea, which now

Line 25 enjoys a lucrative tourist trade.

A recent experiment has supplied **a more promising method** for controlling the algae. To repress the algae

**Comment [RN283]:** Introduces facts that doubt the effectivity of the method of application of algicide ...

cells' capacity for accommodating themselves to environmental changes, the water in the solar pond

Line 30 was first made more saline through evaporation and then diluted by a rapid inflow of fresh water. This shock reduced the cells' ability to regulate the movement of water through their membranes. They rapidly absorbed water, resulting in distortions of shape, increase in volume, and impairment to motility.

Their buoyancy adversely affected, the cells sank to the bottom of the pond, where they encountered the hot waters of the storage layer and were destroyed.

Line 35 This method allows for effective control of nuisance algae while leaving solar ponds as one of the cleanest technologies providing energy for human use.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

**The passage organization may be laid out as follows:**

**PARA 1 ... defines what solar ponds are and introduces to us the concept that they may be used as an energy source or a reservoir of solar heat**

**PARA 2 ... brings to light a problem (growth of algae) that threatens the pond's use as an effective and viable energy source**

**PARA 3 ... method # 1 is introduced and shown to adversely affect the quality of the pond water**

**PARA 4 ... a more recent method (# 2) is introduced and shown to overcome the weaknesses of the earlier method and as a result be an effective means to control the growth of algae**

**The passage is purely factual ... a bit on the narrative side in nature.**

### QUESTIONS

**The primary purpose of the passage is to**

- (A) discuss ways of solving a problem that threatens to limit the usefulness of an energy source ... **the passage introduces the problem in the second paragraph after some background info in the first ... the passage then takes the third and the fourth paragraphs to discuss two ways of addressing that problem ... perfect. CORRECT**

- (B) explain the mechanisms by which solar heat may be converted into energy ... **the mechanisms or the processes by which solar heat may be converted into energy is not even remotely discussed in the passage**
- (C) detail the processes by which algae cells colonize highly saline bodies of water ... **the algae growth in highly saline bodies is a concern taken up in the passage but the way in which the algae grows in the highly saline bodies is never touched upon in the passage**
- (D) report the results of an experiment designed to clean contaminated bodies of water ... **the experiment mentioned in the last paragraph of the passage is said to come out with an effective method of getting rid of the 'algae' ... no such experiment aimed at cleaning the contamination (most likely by chemicals) is ever discussed in the passage ... let alone its results**
- (E) describe the unique properties of a solar pond on the edge of the Dead Sea ... **the pond on the edge of the Dead Sea is part of an artificial experiment to test a solar pond's suitability as an energy reservoir ... the properties as such of this pond are never taken up in the passage**

**It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following is true about the salinity and temperatures of the highest and lowest water layers in a typical solar pond?**

- (A) The bottom layer is both highly saline and quite hot, while the top layer is less saline and cooler ... **lines 1 – 3 confirm that the salt concentration increases with depth ... lines 3 – 8 confirm that the lower layers act as collector of heat thereby having higher temperature and the upper layers act as reflectors thereby having lower temperatures ... thus inferable. CORRECT**
- (B) The two layers have similar salinity levels, but the bottom layer is hotter than the top ... **the passage clearly mentions a salinity variation along the depth of the pond**
- (C) There is no way to predict the salinity and temperature of the different water layers in different solar ponds ... **comparisons between the different layers of different solar ponds is not part of the discussion in the passage**
- (D) The bottom layer is less saline and quite hot, while the top layer is more saline and cooler ... **the bottom layer is said to be more saline (dense) and the upper less saline as per the first para of the passage ... 180 degrees answer option**
- (E) The top layer has both higher salinity and higher temperatures than the bottom layer ... **the bottom layer is said to be more saline (dense) and the upper less saline as per the first para of the passage ... again a 180 degrees answer option**

**According to the passage, the growth of algae was considered a threat to the success of the artificial pond near the Dead Sea because the algae**

- (A) produce excess oxygen that lowers the water temperature in the pond ... **excess temperature lowering oxygen is not a part of the passage ... neither does this help explain why it would impede in trapping heat**
- (B) restrict the circulation of water within the pond ... **the algae is never said to be the reason behind keeping the water of the pond still ... neither does the restricted circulation within the pond be an obstacle in heat preservation by the pond**

- (C) enable heat to escape through the upper level of the pond ... **no such inference can be made from the content of the passage ... the algae is never introduced as an agent of heat dissipation**
- (D) prevent light from penetrating to the lowest levels of the pond ... **this is a paraphrase of what lines 14 – 18 of the passage have to say ... the lesser the light that reaches the lower layer of the pond (because of being obstructed by the algae), the lower the energy storage capacity of the pond. CORRECT**
- (E) prevent accurate measurement of the heat collected in the pond ... **accurate measurements or problems making accurate measurements are not a part of the passage**

Which of the following, if true, would seriously undermine the validity of the conclusions drawn (lines 39 – 41) from the experiment described in the last paragraph of the passage?

- (A) The algae cells that sank to the bottom of the pond were destroyed only after a time lag of twenty-four hours ... **the time lag does not cast doubt on the effectivity of the method so long as they are being gotten completely rid of**
- (B) The lateral motility of the algae cells that sank to the bottom of the pond was not impaired ... **as long as the cells that sank to the bottom were killed and the algae was gotten rid of the method stands as an effective means of doing away with the algae problem**
- (C) The water with which the artificial solar pond was diluted contained microorganisms that kill algae ... **this option suggests that it was not the method used in the last paragraph that killed the algae but some other external agent ... this answer option may be seen as a C causes B attacking an argument that says A causes B. CORRECT**
- (D) The algae cells that sank to the bottom of the pond were actually killed by the rapid change in pressure ... **so long as the method killed the algae cells the conclusion that the method stands as an effective means of getting rid of algae holds is not even slightly undermined**
- (E) The higher salinity brought about through evaporation increased the transparency of the upper levels of water in the pond ... **this option has nothing to do with whether the method described in the last paragraph is an effective method to get rid of the algae**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 103)

Traditional **social science models** of class groups in the United States are based on **economic status** and assume that women's economic status derives from association with men, typically fathers or husbands,

**Comment [RN284]:** Implies models that help in the classification of the entire population of a region into distinct characteristic groups ...

**Comment [RN285]:** Traditional models categorized the population in terms of the individual's economic status ...



Line 5 and that women therefore have more compelling common interest with men of their own economic class than with women outside it. **Some feminist social scientists**, by contrast, have argued that the basic division in American society is instead based on

Line 10 **gender**, and that the total female population, regardless of economic status, constitutes a distinct class. Social historian Mary Ryan, for example, has argued that in early-nineteenth-century America the identical legal status of working-class and middle-class

Line 15 free women outweighed the differences between women of these two classes: married women, regardless of their family's wealth, did essentially the same unpaid domestic work, and none could own property or vote. Recently, though, **other feminist**

Line 20 **analysts** have questioned this model, examining ways in which the condition of working-class women differs from that of middle-class women as well as from that of working-class men. Ann Oakley notes, for example, that the gap between women of different economic

Line 25 classes widened in the late nineteenth century: most working-class women, who performed wage labor outside the home, were excluded from the emerging middle-class ideal of femininity centered around domesticity and volunteerism.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author presents the primary criterion for division into different class groups in the United States. The criterion is thus shown to presume a general view regarding the women's status at the time. The author then presents the views of two other groups

**Comment [RN286]:** Categorization of the population should primarily be in terms of gender ... the author thus presents their input ... their input is centred around women's class status that they assume the women to have at the time.

**Comment [RN287]:** They don't suggest a basic parameter on which the population ought to be categorized into groups ... the author presents their contention with the idea presented by the some feminist social scientists above ... their contention is centred around women's class status assumed by the feminists above.

regarding the status of women at the time and thus what according to them should be the defining criterion for division into different class groups.

The passage is factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) **offer (implies opinion)** sociohistorical explanations for the cultural differences between men and women in the United States ... **why there were cultural differences between men and women in the US is not a part of the passage and is not explained**
- (B) examine how the economic roles of women in the United States changed during the nineteenth century ... **this is more on the lines of a chronology based answer (hence AVOID) ... the passage is not about the roles played by women in the US and how those roles changed ... rather it is about views held by different groups regarding their status**
- (C) consider differing views held by social scientists concerning women's class status in the United States ... **the author first presents the traditional model implying what the scientists believed about the status of women at the time ... the author then presents the views of two more groups of scientists that differ with each other to the extent that the latter group in the passage contends the former's view ... CORRECT**
- (D) **propose (implies opinion)** a feminist interpretation of class structure in the United States ... **the passage does not contain any suggestions from the author's side ... definitely not on interpreting the class structure**
- (E) **outline (red flag – AVOID)** specific distinctions between working-class women and women of the upper and middle classes ... **upper class women are not a part of the passage ... the passage only mentions that the feminists contending the model in the end examined the ways in which the conditions of the working class women differed from those of the middle class women only to highlight why they disagreed with the feminists mentioned in the middle of the passage ... however, the distinctions as such are never outlined in the passage**

It can be inferred from the passage that the most recent feminist social science research on women and class seeks to do which of the following?

- (A) Introduce a divergent new theory about the relationship between legal status and gender ... **legal status and gender are two attributes that the scientists in the middle of the passage are concerned with, especially when they wish to show that regardless of the economic status all women shared the same legal status ... moreover, the recent group is never seen contending with the relationship between legal status and gender that the earlier group puts up**
- (B) Illustrate an implicit middle-class bias in earlier feminist models of class and gender ... **nothing in the passage suggests that there was ever a bias in any of the models**
- (C) Provide evidence for the position that gender matters more than wealth in determining class status ... **the position in this option is precisely the one that the feminists in the**

middle of the passage strongly believed in ... since the recent group is seen to contend with this group this option cannot hold true ... 180 degrees answer

- (D) Remedy perceived inadequacies of both traditional social science models and earlier feminist analyses of class and gender ... the recent group is seen to believe that both the models and the analysis presume falsely the class status of women and they're mentioned to examine ways in which this may be rectified ... thus CORRECT
- (E) Challenge the economic definitions of class used by traditional social scientists ... the recent group is not seen challenging any definitions ... they challenge only the view regarding women's status

Which of the following statements best characterizes the relationship between traditional social science models (economic status based) of class and Ryan's model (gender based), as described in the passage?

- (A) Ryan's model differs from the traditional model by making gender, rather than economic status, the determinant of women's class status ... exactly ... lines 7 – 10 confirm that the feminist social scientists' group of which Ryan was also a part of believed that gender should be the primary principal on which the population ought to be classified ... to her support she cites the similar legal status of women with different economic status. CORRECT
- (B) The traditional social science model of class differs from Ryan's in its assumption that women are financially dependent on men ... the financial dependence of women is not contended between the two ... the fact contended is whether to base the basic division in American society on gender or on economic status
- (C) Ryan's model of class and the traditional social science model both assume that women work, either within the home or for pay ... nothing of such sort is assumed by either
- (D) The traditional social science model of class differs from Ryan's in that each model focuses on a different period of American history ... nowhere does the passage suggest that the differing views are part of different time periods
- (E) Both Ryan's model of class and the traditional model consider multiple factors, including wealth, marital status, and enfranchisement, in determining women's status ... while the traditional model may look at their wealth in order to determine their economic status, Ryan's model ignores this status ... marital status and enfranchisement (right to vote) is not confirmed to be a determinant of either if the models when gauging the status of women

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 104)

According to P. F. Drucker, the management philosophy known as Total Quality Management

(TQM), which is designed to be adopted consistently throughout an organization and to improve customer service by using sampling theory to reduce the variability of a product's quality, can work successfully in conjunction with two older management systems.

**Comment [RN288]:** Highlights the relationship shared by TQM with two other management systems ...

As Drucker notes, TQM's scientific approach is consistent with the statistical sampling techniques of the "rationalist" school of scientific management, and the organizational structure associated with TQM is consistent with the social and psychological emphases of the "human relations" school of management.

**Comment [RN289]:** Gives further details of the relationship shared between TQM and one of the management systems talked of above ...

However, TQM cannot simply be grafted onto these systems or onto certain other non-TQM management systems. Although, as Drucker contends, TQM shares with such systems the ultimate objective of increasing profitability, TQM requires fundamentally different strategies. While the other management systems referred to use upper management decision-making and employee specialization to maximize shareholder profits over the short term, TQM envisions the interests of employees, shareholders, and customers as convergent. For example, lower prices not only

**Comment [RN290]:** Gives further details of the relationship shared between TQM and one of the management systems talked of above ...

**Comment [RN291]:** Note here that the author is simply mentioning another fact that describes another aspect of the relationship of TQM with other systems ... the author's not cautioning anyone or warning against a particular action ... he simply states a fact about TQM.

**Comment [RN292]:** Another point highlighting the relationship shared by TQM with other systems ...

benefit consumers but also enhance an organization's competitive edge and ensure its continuance, thus benefiting employees and owners. TQM's emphasis on shared interests is reflected in the decentralized decision-making, integrated production activity, and lateral structure of organizations that achieve the benefits of TQM.

**Comment [RN293]:** Exemplification of how TQM's strategy differs from that of other systems.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces a management system and dedicates the rest of the passage to describing its relationship (whether it can or cannot be applied in conjunction with other systems, what aspects if any are common with other systems and so on ...) with other systems that the author brings into the discussion.

The passage is factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) point out **contradictions (implied criticism – negative tone)** in a new management system ... **nothing in the passage suggests that TQM is new ... there are no contradictions in the passage anywhere**
- (B) compare and contrast the objectives of various management systems ... **the passage is not a compare and contrast one ... the objectives of other systems are not even mentioned or listed**
- (C) identify the organizational features shared by various management systems ... **there is only one line in the passage that identifies one other management system (not systems) with which TQM shares an organizational structure, however, features of the organizational structure are not a part of the passage**
- (D) explain the relationship of a particular management system to certain other management systems ... **perfect match ... the passage takes up TQM and explains its relationship to other systems mentioned in the passage. CORRECT.**
- (E) explain the advantages of a particular management system over certain other management systems ... **the passage is not endorsing one system over others ... nothing in the passage can be construed as an advantage (an area where other systems fail at but not TQM) of TQM**

Which of the following best describes the relationship of the second paragraph to the first paragraph?

- (A) It presents contrasting explanations for a phenomenon presented in the first paragraph ... **a phenomenon implies the occurrence of an event ... there is none in the passage ... just because the passage begins with a contrast word does not mean that what is to follow has to be the exact opposite whatever's written above**
- (B) It discusses an exception to a general principle outlined in the first paragraph ... **a principle implies an rule of action or conduct, more like a doctrine ... there is no principle in the passage ... nothing in the passage can be construed as an exception**
- (C) It provides information that **qualifies (implies to prove valid)** a claim presented in the first paragraph ... **CORRECT. The second paragraph is more geared towards discussing the implementation or the application part of TQM thereby holding valid the claim above that TQM can be successfully applied in conjunction with other systems**

- (D) It presents an example that strengthens a claim presented in the first paragraph ... **the second para is clearly not about exemplification ... the example provided in the second paragraph is linked with what the second paragraph is trying to say ... it is not in any way linked with the first paragraph**
- (E) It presents an alternative approach to solving a problem discussed in the first paragraph ... **the passage does not contain any alternative approaches, moreover there is no problem anywhere in the passage**

According to the passage, the rationalist and human relations schools of management are alike in that they

- (A) are primarily interested in increasing profits ... **confirmed from lines 19 – 22 of the passage ... the word 'primarily' in the answer choice above may be justified by the fact that while TQM sees the interests of employees, shareholders and customers with equal due importance, the other systems, namely the ones in the question, are only concerned about increasing profits, not being bothered about the other interests. CORRECT.**
- (B) place **little (implies none at all – extreme)** emphasis on issues of organizational structure ... **the organizational structure is mentioned only in context to the latter system not the former**
- (C) use statistical sampling techniques to increase profitability ... **statistical sampling is only mentioned in context to the former system and not the latter**
- (D) are unlikely to lower prices in order to increase profitability ... **'lower prices' are used as an example to highlight the structure TQM follows ... there is nothing in the passage that might suggest that a particular system is likely to or not likely to reduce prices**
- (E) focus **chiefly (extreme as per the content of the passage)** on setting and attaining long-term objectives ... **only their maximizing of the shareholder profits (lines 19 – 22) is mentioned as something they're likely to take up over the short term, but nothing suggests any long term goals or activities**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 105)

The United States hospital industry is an unusual market in that nonprofit and for-profit producers exist simultaneously. **Theoretical literature** offers conflicting views on whether nonprofit hospitals are less financially efficient. Theory suggests that nonprofit hospitals are so much more interested in offering high-

Line 5

**Comment [RN294]:** The entire passage is concerned with the literature has to say about the efficiency of profit vs non-profit hospitals in terms of managing funds and in terms of social welfare

**Comment [RN295]:** The first paragraph takes up the conflicting views on the financial efficiency of the two kinds of hospitals



quality service than in making money that they frequently input more resources to provide the same output of service as for-profit hospitals. This priority

Line 10 might also often lead them to be less vigilant in streamlining their services—eliminating duplication between departments, for instance. Conversely, while profit motive is thought to encourage for-profit hospitals to attain efficient production, most theorists

Line 15 admit that obstacles to that efficiency remain. For-profit hospital **managers**, for example, generally work independently of hospital owners and thus may not always make maximum financial efficiency their highest priority. The literature also suggests that

Line 20 widespread adoption of third-party payment systems may eventually eliminate any such potential differences between the two kinds of hospitals. The same literature offers similarly conflicting views of the efficiency of nonprofit hospitals from a **social**

Line 25 **welfare perspective**. Newhouse (1970) contends that nonprofit hospital managers unnecessarily expand the quality and quantity of hospital care beyond the actual needs of the community, while Weisbrod (1975) argues that nonprofit firms—hospitals included—

Line 30 contribute efficiently to community welfare by providing public services that might be inadequately provided by government alone.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

**Comment [RN296]:** The second presents conflicting views about efficiency in terms of social welfare

The author is simply presenting opposite views that compare profit vs non-profit hospitals in terms of financial and social welfare administering efficiency. The author has no input here.

The passage is factual / more likely narrative in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following best describes the overall content of the second paragraph of the passage?

- (A) It describes **views (conflicting views)** concerning a **particular aspect (social welfare administering efficiency)** of **one of the types of hospitals (non-profit hospitals)** discussed earlier ... **CORRECT. Exactly what the second para does.**
- (B) It describes an additional benefit of one of the types of hospitals discussed earlier ... **benefits of any sort are not part of the passage**
- (C) **It offers (implies the author has an opinion)** a potential solution to a problem inherent in the structure of the United States hospital industry ... **the passage does not contain any potential solutions ... the passage is discussing which of the two (profit or non-profit) is more efficient ... never does the passage say that there is a problem as in saying that both or either one of them is inefficient ... 'inherent problem' is not confirmed from the content of the passage**
- (D) It provides an additional contrast between the two types of hospitals discussed earlier ... **the contrast that is presented is in the views regarding a particular aspect (social welfare administering efficiency) concerning the two hospitals, not a contrast between the hospitals themselves ... it is important to note the difference between a contrast between two physical objects (say of physical features) and a contrast between views**
- (E) It describes one of the consequences of the character of the United States hospital market ... **the passage does not deal with any consequences or effects ... the passage talks entirely in terms of views ... the only character talked of in the entire passage is in the first line of the passage ... 'unusual market' ... whatever the second para says are not consequences of this character**

According to the passage, Newhouse's view of the social welfare efficiency of nonprofit hospitals differs from Weisbrod's view in that Newhouse

- (A) contends that government already provides most of the services that communities need ... **Newhouse contends that the non-profit agencies overprovides ... Newhouse has nothing to say about the government**
- (B) argues that for-profit hospitals are better at meeting actual community needs than are nonprofit hospitals ... **Newhouse never contends whether the non-profit hospitals take up the actual needs or misdiagnose the situation and take up the wrong cause. It is about how well (in terms of efficiency) they handle the needs after the actual needs have been identified**
- (C) argues that nonprofit hospitals are likely to spend more to provide services that the community requires than for-profit hospitals are likely to spend ... **this is a part of the**

first para (financial efficiency) ... Newhouse is concerned with social welfare efficiency alone ... factual mismatch here

- (D) argues that nonprofit hospitals ought to expand the services they provide to meet the community's demands ... **nothing in the views of Newhouse suggests that he feels that the demand is not being met, rather he says quite the contrary ... it is being over-met**
- (E) believes that the level of care provided by nonprofit hospitals is inappropriate, given the community's requirements ... **this is an exact paraphrase of what he has to say ... that non-profit hospitals overprovide, given the requirements (lines 25–28). CORRECT.**

The passage suggests which of the following about the managers mentioned in the highlighted text?

- (A) They have generally been motivated to streamline hospital services as a result of direct intervention by hospital owners ... **the managers mentioned are ones without any direct intervention from hospital owners ... 180 degrees answer**
- (B) They are more likely than managers of nonprofit hospitals to use unnecessary amounts of resources to provide services ... **the managers are part of an example that suggests that there is a good possibility that managers of for-profit hospitals may not always be driven towards financial efficiency maximization ... the exemplification does not, however, compare the relative degree of likelihood towards efficiency of non-profit hospital managers with that of for-profit hospital managers ... moreover, non-profit hospital managers are not part of the passage**
- (C) Their **most (superlative – AVOID)** important self-acknowledged goal is to achieve maximum financial efficiency so that hospitals show a profit ... **nothing in the passage suggests that such a goal is self-acknowledged by them ... lines 17 – 19 confirm that such managers may not make always make financial efficiency their top priority ... thus 180 degrees answer**
- (D) **Their decisions (of sometimes not making financial efficiency their top priority)** regarding services provided by their hospitals may not reflect hospital owners' priorities **(maximum financial efficiency) ... lines 17 – 19 confirm this option word by word ... thus CORRECT**
- (E) They do not place a high priority on maximizing profits, despite their desire to achieve efficiency ... **nothing in the passage hints to what their desires may be ... they passage suggests in lines 17 – 19 that these managers may not always place a high priority on maximizing financial efficiency ... this does not mean that they always don't ... profits are not part of the passage**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 106)

**Although** (CONTRAST WORD) the industrial union organizations that

emerged under the banner of the Congress of

Industrial Organizations (CIO) in the 1930s and 1940s

embraced the principles of nondiscrimination and

Line 5 inclusion, the role of women within unions reflected the prevailing **gender ideology** of the period.

**Elizabeth Faue's** study of the labor movement in

Minneapolis **argues** that women were marginalized by

union bureaucratization and by the separation of

Line 10 unions from the community politics from which industrial unionism had emerged. Faue stresses the importance of women's contribution to the development of unions at the community level, contributions that made women's ultimate fate within

Line 15 the city's labor movement all the more poignant: as unions reached the peak of their strength in the 1940s, the community base that had made their success possible and to which women's contributions were so vital became increasingly irrelevant to unions'

Line 20 institutional life.

In her study of CIO industrial unions from the 1930s to

the 1970s, **Nancy F. Gabin** also acknowledges the

pervasive male domination in the unions, but

**maintains** that women workers were able to create a

Line 25 political space within some unions to advance their interests as women. Gabin shows that, despite the unions' tendency to marginalize women's issues,

**Comment [RN297]:** The contrast word right at the beginning of the passage suggests that whatever the author introduces through its use is something that the passage will take on ... and indeed the fact that is presented through the use of this contrast word has two authors giving their stance on

**Comment [RN298]:** The passage presents the viewpoint of Elizabeth Faue ...

**Comment [RN299]:** The passage presents the viewpoint of Nancy F. Gabin ...

working women's demands were a constant undercurrent within the union, and she stresses the links between the unions' women activists and the wave of feminism that emerged in the 1960s.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces how there was a gap between what the union organizations voiced for and what they practiced in reality. The author then presents the viewpoints of two authors that think on similar lines.

The passage is more or less narrative in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, Faue's study and Gabin's study agree in that both

- (A) attribute the inclusion of women in unions to the policies of the CIO ... **such attribution is spoken of by neither author ... CIO policies are not a part of the passage**
- (B) emphasize the importance of unions at the community level ... **unions at community level is a part of Faue's study alone**
- (C) argue that women played important roles in the establishment of industrial union organizations ... **this is again only a part of Faue's study**
- (D) suggest that women in industrial union organizations played a subordinate role ... **CORRECT ... lines 8 – 9 confirm that Faue's study acknowledges that women were marginalized by bureaucratization ... lines 22 – 23 confirm that Gabin acknowledges the pervasive male domination in the unions**
- (E) suggest that the interests of women workers were incompatible with those of unions in general ... **Faue's study basically emphasizes the role played by women in setting up of the unions at community level and in general ... the above option is thus only a part of Gabin's study**

Which of the following can be inferred regarding the "gender ideology" mentioned in the highlighted text?

- (A) It prevented women from making significant contributions to the establishment of industrial unions ... **the gender ideology has to be on the lines of discrimination and non-inclusion as gleaned from the contrast sentence (first sentence of the passage) of which it is a part of ... contributions is irrelevant to the ideology**
- (B) It resulted from the marginalization of women in industrial unions ... **wrong presentation of cause and effect ... never does the passage imply that the marginalization in unions gave birth to the ideology**
- (C) It had a significant effect on the advancement of women's issues within industrial unions ... **the ideology which comprised marginalization of women's issues and non-**

inclusion was something that (according to Gabin) motivated the women to create a political space in some unions to advance their interests ... thus inferable. CORRECT.

- (D) Its **primary (extreme – AVOID)** tenets were nondiscrimination and inclusion ... **the contrast sentence (first sentence of the passage) of which the highlighted portion is a part of suggests that the ideology has to be opposite to the notion of non-discrimination and inclusion ... this option is thus 180 degrees**
- (E) Its effects were mitigated by the growth of industrial unions ... **the passage does not discuss the effects of the ideology ... certainly not that they were mitigated as mentioned**

The author of the passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) presenting two views ... **exactly ... the author simply pens down two views. CORRECT.**
- (B) **reconciling (implies opinion and positive tone)** two antithetical claims ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the two claims are antithetical (mutually incompatible) ... the passage has no reconciliation**
- (C) **assessing (signifies balanced tone)** conflicting evidence ... **there is no conflict in any evidence that may be presented by the passage ... moreover, the passage presents views and not evidence**
- (D) **weakening (negative tone answer)** a generally accepted argument ... **the passage is without an argument (premise + conclusion)**
- (E) **tracing the development of an (typical chronology answer – AVOID)** ideology ... **the passage does not discuss the origins (and the journey there on) of the ideology in the highlighted text**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 107)

The view has prevailed for the better part of the twentieth century that small firms do not perform an important role in Western economies. Official policies in many countries have favored large units of production because there were strong reasons to believe that large firms were superior to small firms in virtually every aspect of economic performance—productivity, technological progress, and job security and compensation. **However (CONTRAST WORD)**, in the 1970s, evidence

**Comment [RN300]:** Marks the beginning of a possible shift in the view ...



Line 10 began to suggest that small firms in some countries were outperforming their larger counterparts. Perhaps the **best example** of this trend was in the steel industry, where new firms entered the market in the form of "mini-mills," and small-firm employment

**Comment [RN301]:** Best reason to believe that there ought to be a different understanding about the contribution of small firms to the economy ...

Line 15 expanded, while many large companies shut down plants and reduced employment. **Although** (CONTRAST WORD) no systematic evidence exists to determine unequivocally whether smaller units of production are as efficient as large firms or are, in fact, more efficient, some

**Comment [RN302]:** despite formal unambiguously suggestive evidence, there were people who were now beginning to think differently from the prevalent view in the beginning of the passage ... a strong signaller that a change in the prevalent view is to follow in the passage ...

Line 20 researchers have concluded that the accumulated evidence to date indicates that small firms are at least not burdened with an inherent size disadvantage.

**Thus**, an alternative view has emerged in the economics literature, arguing that small firms make several important contributions to industrial markets. First, small firms are often the source of the kind of innovative activity that leads to technological change. Small firms generate market turbulence that creates additional dimensions of competition, and they also

**Comment [RN303]:** this is not the author's conclusion but a logical derivation (timeline based) from a set of events / developments ... has a narrative tone attached to it ... note that this is an alternate view ... and an alternate view need not necessarily be a 180 degree view ... it can be a divergent view as well like the one here!

Line 30 promote international competition through newly created niches. Finally, small firms in recent years have generated the preponderant share of new jobs.

**However** (CONTRAST WORD), empirical knowledge about the relative roles of large and small firms is generally based upon

Line 35 anecdotal evidence and case studies, and such evidence has proved inadequate to answer major questions concerning the role of small firms across various industries and nations. An additional difficulty

**Comment [RN304]:** the passage ends with the fact that there are ambiguities regarding certain important facts related to how exactly the small firms fare in the context of the economy as a whole ... as well as a difficulty in mapping accurately the extent of the role played exclusively by the small firms in contributing to the economy as a whole ...

is that it is not obvious what criteria one should use to distinguish small firms from large ones. While a "small firm" is often defined as an enterprise with fewer than 500 employees, research studies of small firms use a wide variety of definitions.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author talks of a certain prevailing viewpoint and talks of certain evidence that might lead one to diverge from the prevailing viewpoint. The author then takes up an alternate perception that has been brewing up lately and describes its divergence with the prevailing view. The author ends with stating troubles still faced in the comparison of relative roles played by small and large firms with regard to contributing to the economy.

The entire passage has a narrative tone attached to it ... factual in nature!

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) **dismissing (implies an opinion by the author)** a challenge to a traditional viewpoint ... **there is nothing in the passage that might even remotely pass for a challenge or a criticism ... moreover, this option implies a positive tone by the author towards the traditional view ... the author displays no such subjectivity in the passage**
- (B) **suggesting (implies an opinion by the author)** a new solution to a long-standing problem ... **the passage does neither contains any problem ... certainly not a long-standing one ... nor a solution to it ... just two perceptions**
- (C) **resolving (implies an opinion by the author)** a conflict between two competing viewpoints ... **the viewpoints are divergent from each other in the sense that they might not agree on certain facts, however, nothing in the passage suggests that they are competing with each other (engaged in a debate with each other) ... nothing in the passage may be construed as a conflict**
- (D) discussing the emergence of an alternative viewpoint ... **the passage takes the first para to suggest the brewing up of a possibly divergent view and presents the alternate view in the second paragraph ... thus CORRECT**
- (E) **defending (implies positive tone and an opinion by the author)** an alternative viewpoint against possible counterevidence ... **there is no counterevidence (evidence challenging the claims about small firms made in lines 23 – 32) presented in the passage**

The passage suggests which of the following about the empirical study of small firms' role?

- (A) Anecdotal evidence does not support the theory that small firms' role is significant ... **the discussion regarding the empirical knowledge mentioned in line 33 of the passage is that the evidence on which the study is based (anecdotal) is insufficient in gauging the role played by a small firm in an economy ... and not that the evidence supports some theory (which is not a part of the passage) talking of the significance of the role of the small firms**
- (B) Degrees of market turbulence are the **primary (extreme)** indicator of small firms' role ... **market turbulence is mentioned one of the results gained out of the presence of small firms, however, the passage never implies that it is the most important indicator of the role played by small firms ... moreover, degrees of market turbulence (i.e. variations of market turbulence) is not a part of the passage**
- (C) An examination of new niches created by small firms has provided important data for the analysis of such firms' role ... **examination of the niches is not a part of the passage and neither is any data important for the analysis of small firms' role ... the passage only discusses the difficulties faced in trying to gauge the role of small firms**
- (D) Case studies have provided reliable evidence to answer major questions concerning small firms' role ... **lines 33 – 38 suggest the exact opposite to this answer option ... this is a 180 degrees answer**
- (E) A more precise definition of the term "small firm" is crucial to making a conclusive analysis about small firms' role ... **lines 38 – 43 confirm that the wide variety of definitions available do not help in any manner and rather present an additional difficulty to gauging the role of small firms ... thus CORRECT**

Which of the following best describes the organization of the first paragraph of the passage?

- (A) **A viewpoint is introduced (lines 1 – 9), counterevidence is presented (lines 9 – 16), and a new perspective is suggested (lines 16 – 22) ... CORRECT.**
- (B) Opposing viewpoints are discussed, and evidence is provided that refutes both of those viewpoints ... **the paragraph presents only one view in the beginning ... the para sees no refutation**
- (C) A hypothesis is described, supported with specific evidence, and then reaffirmed ... **the paragraph / or even passage does not contain a hypothesis (a kind of a proposed explanation for a phenomenon) ... the para contains two contrast words which suggest that the paragraph cannot proceed in one direction alone as mentioned in this answer option**
- (D) An alternative viewpoint is presented, criticized, and dismissed in light of new evidence ... **the alternative viewpoint cannot be presented at the absolute beginning, without even presenting the viewpoint to which it is an alternative**
- (E) Opposing viewpoints are presented, discussed, and then found to be more similar than previously supposed ... **the paragraph contains just one viewpoint in the beginning ... i.e. the traditionally held one**

According to the passage, an important contribution of small firms to industrial markets is that small firms

- (A) operate more efficiently than large firms ... lines 16 – 19 specifically mention that there is no convincing and legitimate evidence to determine whether or not small firms are more efficient than large firms ... this cannot be confirmed from the passage context
- (B) offer high job security and compensation ... security and compensation is not part of the passage discussion
- (C) cause international competition to decrease ... lines 29 – 30 say that they promote international competition ... 180 degrees answer
- (D) help prevent market turbulence from affecting competition ... wrongly put ... small firms are confirmed (lines 28 – 29) to create market turbulence generating competition
- (E) frequently undertake activities (innovative activity) that result in technological change ... lines 26 – 27 confirm this option word by word. CORRECT.

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 108)

The Black Death, a severe epidemic that ravaged fourteenth-century Europe, has intrigued scholars ever since **Francis Gasquet's** 1893 study contending that this epidemic greatly intensified the political and religious upheaval that ended the Middle Ages. Thirty-six years later, historian **George Coulton** agreed but, paradoxically, attributed a **silver lining to the Black**

**Death**: prosperity engendered by diminished

competition for food, shelter, and work led survivors of

the epidemic into the Renaissance and subsequent rise of modern Europe.

In the 1930s, **however (CONTRAST WORD)**, **Evgeny Kosminsky and other**

**Marxist historians** claimed the epidemic was merely an ancillary factor contributing to a general agrarian crisis

stemming primarily from the inevitable decay of

**Comment [RN305]:** Implies there has been a general ongoing debate regarding the significance / importance of Black Death in history ...

European feudalism. In arguing that this decline of feudalism was economically determined, the Marxist asserted that the Black Death was a relatively insignificant factor. This became the prevailing view

Line 20 until after the Second World War, when studies of specific regions and towns revealed astonishing mortality rates ascribed to the epidemic, thus restoring the central role of the Black Death in history.

**Comment [RN306]:** Up till this point the author presents the nature of the debate in the distant past ...

This central role of the Black Death (traditionally attributed to bubonic plague brought from Asia) has been **recently** challenged from another direction.

**Comment [RN307]:** From here on the author presents the nature of the debate in the recent past ...

Building on bacteriologist John Shrewsbury's speculations about mislabeled epidemics, zoologist Graham Twigg employs urban case studies suggesting that the rat population in Europe was both too sparse and insufficiently migratory to have spread plague. Moreover, Twigg disputes the traditional trade-ship explanation for plague transmissions by extrapolating

Line 30 from data on the number of dead rats aboard Nile sailing vessels in 1912. The Black Death, which he conjectures was anthrax instead of bubonic plague, therefore caused far less havoc and fewer deaths than historians typically claim.

**Although (CONTRAST WORD)** correctly citing the exacting conditions Line 40 needed to start or spread bubonic plague, Twigg ignores virtually a century of scholarship contradictory to his findings and employs faulty logic in his single-minded approach to the Black Death. His speculative generalizations about the numbers of rats in medieval

Line 45 Europe are based on isolated studies unrepresentative of medieval conditions, while his unconvincing trade-ship argument overlooks land-based caravans, the overland migration of infected rodents, and the many other animals that carry plague.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The passage is merely a factual narration of the various kinds of debates on black death through the ages.

**Comment [RN308]:** this paragraph although seems as though the author is busy commenting on the argument advanced by Twigg, is actually a continuation of the factual aspects of the nature of the debate contested by Twigg.

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) demonstrating the relationship between bubonic plague and the Black Death ... **the passage only mentions that the Black death has been traditionally attributed to the Bubonic plague, apart from this information there is hardly anything else mentioned about any sort of connection between the two**
- (B) **interpreting (implies opinion)** historical and scientific works on the origins of the Black Death ... **the passage everywhere is concerned with presenting a debate (arguments advanced by the many in the passage) rather than a historical work (which is more like a research or a study) ... nothing in the passage may be construed as a scientific work**
- (C) employing the Black Death as a case study of disease transmission in medieval Europe ... **the passage is not an understanding of how the disease was transmitted at the time of Black Death ... the passage is rather a presentation of various debates on the historical importance of Black Death**
- (D) presenting aspects of past and current debate on the historical importance of the Black Death ... **exactly ... the passage is only concerned with presenting specific portions of the past and current debate regarding how historically significant Black Death may be seen as ... CORRECT**
- (E) analyzing the differences between capitalist and Marxist interpretations of the historical significance of the Black Death ... **there is just one difference mentioned in the passage regarding the above ... moreover, the option does not encapsulate the current aspect of the debate ... the Twigg episode to be more precise**

The passage suggests that Twigg believes that rats could not have spread the Black Death unless (we are in search of a necessary condition that ensures that the Black Death spreads) which of the following were true?

- (A) The rats escaped from ships that had been in Asia ... **even if the rats do escape the ship, it not clear as to whether the rats are in sufficient enough numbers to carry out the spread of the plague ... this is thus not a necessary condition**



- (B) The rats were immune to the diseases that they carried ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the rats were required to be immune in order to spread the disease**
- (C) The rat population was larger in medieval Europe than Twigg believes it actually was ... **lines 30 – 31 confirm that the rat population had to be larger than what Twigg assumes it actually was at the time (a population that Twigg contends was insufficient to ensure the spread of the plague) ... thus this fills our search for a necessary condition. CORRECT**
- (D) The rat population primarily infested densely populated areas ... **their location / area of infestation / breeding is least connected to ensuring that they spread the disease**
- (E) The rats interacted with other animals that Twigg believes could have carried plague ... **that rats were required as a necessity in order to ensure the spread of the disease is not inferred from the passage**

Which of the following statements is most compatible with Kosminsky's (discredits the central role of Black death) approach to history, as it is presented in the passage?

- (A) The Middle Ages were ended **primarily (extreme – AVOID)** by the religious and political upheaval in fourteenth-century Europe ... **Kosminsky as per lines 16 – 19 of the passage is seen to be of the view that economic factors primarily ended the middle ages ... Kosminsky has nothing to say in regard to religious and political upheaval ... which is part of the hypothesis put forth by another scholar Francis Gasquet in line 3**
- (B) The economic consequences of the Black Death included increased competition for food, shelter, and work ... **increased competition as a consequence is not suggested by anyone in the passage**
- (C) European history cannot be studied in isolation from that of the rest of the world ... **Kosminsky is never seen pressing for the need to study European history in context of the rest of the world**
- (D) The number of deaths in fourteenth-century Europe has been **greatly (extreme – AVOID)** exaggerated by other historians ... **Kosminsky is not seen contending the accuracy of any evidence**
- (E) The significance of the Black Death is best explained within the context of evolving economic systems ... **lines 16 – 19 confirm that Kosminsky (and the other Marxists) holds that the decline of feudalism was economically driven and hence assigns an insignificant role to Black Death in history. This in a way suggests that his approach to history is directly connected to economic circumstances and causes, and such is the framework in which he assess the importance of Black Death as a contributing factor ... thus CORRECT.**

The "silver lining (implying a beneficial aspect in an otherwise gruesomely devastating situation) to the Black Death" (the highlighted text) refers to which of the following?

- (A) The decay of European feudalism precipitated by the Black Death ... **the decay of feudalism and the ending of the middle ages is what Francis Gasquet argues for ... the silver lining is attributed by Coulton who is highly intrigued with the prosperity engendered and the subsequent rise of modern Europe through Renaissance and hence tags this positive aspect as a 'silver lining'**

- (B) Greater availability of employment, sustenance, and housing for survivors of the epidemic ... **this is directly inferable from the decreased competition the passage talks of in lines 8 – 11 of the passage ... this option refers most directly to the diminished competition that Coulton talks of ... thus CORRECT**
- (C) Strengthening of the human species through natural selection ... **the part of the passage discusses about diminished competition as the beneficial factor ... natural selection (or how were the survivors selected for that matter) is not a part of the passage**
- (D) Better understanding of how to limit the spread of contagious diseases ... **no such understanding is mentioned in the passage ... the Black death is not taken up in the passage for analysis in this regard**
- (E) Immunities and resistance to the Black Death gained by later generations ... **no such immunities are ever talked of in the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 109)

Most farmers attempting to control slugs and snails

turn to baited slug poison, or molluscicide, which

usually consists of a bran pellet containing either methiocarb or metaldehyde. Both chemicals are

Line 5 neurotoxins that disrupt that part of the brain charged

with making the mouth move in a coordinated fashion—the "central pattern generator"—as the slug

feeds. Thus, both neurotoxins, while somewhat

effective, interfere with the slugs' feeding behavior

Line 10 and limit their ingestion of the poison, increasing the

probability that some will stop feeding before receiving

a lethal dose. **Moreover (relay point ... furthers the same concern),** slugs are not the only

consumers of these poisons: methiocarb may be toxic

to a variety of species, including varieties of worms,

Line 15 carabid beetles, and fish.

Researchers are experimenting with an alternative

**Comment [RN309]:** Suggestive of molluscicide has a widespread use / application among concerned farmers ...

**Comment [RN310]:** A point to doubt the effectiveness as a measure to control slugs or snails ...

**Comment [RN311]:** Another point that raises the question whether it really is safe to use the pellets ...

compound based on aluminum, which may solve these problems, but this may well have a limited future as we learn more about the hazards of aluminum in the environment. For example, some researchers suggest

that acid rain kills trees by mobilizing aluminum in the soil, while others have noted that the human disease Alzheimer's is more prevalent in areas where levels of aluminum in the soil are high. With farmers losing as

much as 20 percent of their crops to slugs and snails even after treatment with currently available molluscicides, there is considerable incentive for researchers to come up with better and environmentally safer solutions.

**Author: NO OPINION**

*Notice that the author never in a single line inputs his feelings, emotions or his input / comments. The author has objectively cited facts that do the job of stressing the need for an alternative.*

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

*Even though the author may seem concerned in the passage, he maintains a disinterested tone as he's simply seen stating facts.*

The author brings to light the fact that the widespread use of a compound to control slug and snail population is neither as effective nor environmentally safe. The author shows next how even an alternative may or probably is not the answer to the problem. The author ends with more facts that stress the need for a viable option (alternative).

### QUESTIONS

In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with

- (A) describing the limitations of molluscicides that affect feeding behaviour ... **the passage has just one limitation regarding the feeding behaviour ... the feeding behaviour is only a part of the first para which is why this option does not encapsulate the ideas in the second para**
- (B) **proposing (implies opinion)** alternatives to current methods of controlling slugs and snails ... **the author stresses on the need for an alternative however, never proposes one from his end**

**Comment [RN312]:** Presents a factual possibility or a measure of the degree of likelihood ... not an opinion

**Comment [RN313]:** Presents a factual possibility or a measure of the degree of likelihood ... not an opinion

**Comment [RN314]:** Presents more of a tone of caution while stating this fact ... the author sounds concerned ...

**Comment [RN315]:** this piece of evidence or fact carries with it a tone of emphasis ... as if something's need or necessity is being brought to our attention

- (C) emphasizing the need for an alternative to currently available molluscicides ... **exactly ... by putting all the relevant evidence up in front of the reader the author stress on the need for an alternative ... CORRECT**
- (D) explaining how molluscicides are used to control slugs and snails ... **the passage is not an informative session on a process ... the passage is not one with details on a procedure.**
- (E) **criticizing (implies negative tone and opinion)** the use of hazardous material for controlling slugs and snails ... **a criticism is more like a direct attack on such use ... a criticism makes more of a sense when having a safer alternative one sticks with the harmful one ... here there is no other option available, which is why there is nothing or no one to criticize**

The author cites which of the following as a disadvantage of methiocarb?

- (A) It contains high levels of aluminium ... **aluminium is discussed in the second para and forms part of a compound that the author introduces as a potential replacement to methiocarb specifically because of the aluminium content**
- (B) It may react with acid rain to kill trees ... **reaction with acid rain is part of the aluminium based substitute discussion, para 2 ... methiocarb is a part of para 1**
- (C) It has been associated with Alzheimer's disease ... **again this is in context to aluminium not methiocarb**
- (D) It may be toxic to some species of fish ... **lines 13 – 15 confirm this answer option. CORRECT.**
- (E) It may not be as effective in killing slugs as metaldehyde is ... **mathematical answer ... this option infuses comparison where there is none. Methiocarb is never compared with metaldehyde in terms of efficacy in killing slugs**

The passage suggests that methiocarb and metaldehyde would be more effective as slug poisons (that is more effective at ensuring that the slugs do die) if it were true that they

- (A) disrupt the slug's digestive processes rather than its reproductive functions ... **effect on the reproductive functions is not a part of the passage at all**
- (B) reduce the slug's ability to taste food ... **disrupting the ability to taste food is not a part of the passage**
- (C) begin to affect the feeding behavior of a slug only after it has ingested a lethal dose ... **were this to be true, then the concern in lines 8 – 12 is duly addressed by ensuring that the lethal dose of the poison is certain to be reached in organisms feeding on the poison ... thus CORRECT**
- (D) reach the central pattern generator more quickly ... **this sort of goes against the motive that this question seeks out ... the quicker they reach, the earlier the slugs stop feeding and more the chances that the lethal dose is not met**
- (E) accumulate only in the central pattern generator rather than throughout the brain ... **areas of the brain where the compound should accumulate is not a part of the passage at all**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 110)

The storms most studied by climatologists have been those that are most easily understood by taking atmospheric measurements. Hurricanes and

tornadoes, for example, are spatially confined, the

Line 5 forces that drive them are highly concentrated, and they have distinctive forms and readily quantifiable characteristics. Consequently, data about them are abundant, and their behavior is relatively well understood, although still difficult to predict.

Line 10 Hurricanes and tornadoes are also studied because they are highly destructive storms, and knowledge

about their behavior can help minimize injury to

people and property. But (CONTRAST WORD) other equally destructive storms have not been so thoroughly researched,

Line 15 perhaps because they are more difficult to study. A primary example is the northeaster, a type of coastal storm that causes significant damage along the eastern coast of North America. Northeasters, whose

Line 20 diffuse nature makes them difficult to categorize, are relatively weak low-pressure systems with winds that rarely acquire the strength of even the smallest hurricane. Although northeasters are perceived to be

Line 25 less destructive than other storms, the high waves associated with strong northeasters can cause damage comparable to that of a hurricane, because they can affect stretches of coast more than 1,500 kilometers long, whereas hurricanes typically threaten a relatively

**Comment [RN316]:** The 'for example' confirms that Hurricanes and tornadoes are storms that are easily understood

**Comment [RN317]:** Another reason why they receive more attention ...

**Comment [RN318]:** Notice how the contrast word introduces the main theme of the passage that the author is mainly writing this passage to build on ...

**Comment [RN319]:** This is not a suggestion made by the author ... this possibility is logically derived from the first sentence of this passage ... this is not something that comes only from the author's side

small ribbon of coastline—roughly 100 to 150 kilometers.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author introduces with a reason why certain storms may be studied more than others. The author in the second paragraph substantiates the above by bring in more reasons why an equally destructive storm has received a relatively less amount of study.

The passage is factual in nature ...

### QUESTIONS

The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) evaluate (signals a balanced tone) the relative amounts of damage caused by different storm types ... the passage does not evaluate / judge the value of the damage caused by different storms ... the passage briefly compares the storms to show that the northeaster is equally destructive
- (B) describe the difficulties of classifying destructive storms by type ... the passage is not a bullet list of difficulties faced in the classification of the storm types ... the passage just barely mentions that it is difficult to classify the northeaster
- (C) examine the relationship between wave height and the destructive potential of storms ... the passage is not about deriving a correlation between the wave height and the destructive potential of storms
- (D) discuss a theory that explains the origins of violent storms ... there is no theory in the passage ... origins of storms is more on the lines of a chronology based answer
- (E) discuss reasons why certain types of storms receive more study than others ... this is exactly why the author has taken the trouble to write this passage ... he even exemplifies his case by taking up the northeaster. CORRECT.

According to the passage, which of the following is true of northeasters?

- (A) They have only recently been identified as a distinct storm type ... not mentioned ... the passage confirms that the storm is still difficult to categorize
- (B) They are more destructive than tornadoes ... they are not compared at all with tornadoes in the passage ... only with hurricanes
- (C) They are low-pressure systems ... this is a direct reiteration of line 20. CORRECT.
- (D) They affect a relatively small segment of the eastern coast of North America ... lines 25 onwards confirm the exact opposite to this answer option ... 180 degrees answer
- (E) Their winds are typically as strong as those of small hurricanes ... lines 20 – 22 mention that their winds rarely acquire the strength close to that of a weak hurricane ... the above option is thus incorrect



Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about storms that lend themselves to atmospheric measurements?

- (A) They are more likely than other storms to be studied by climatologists ... **this is exactly what the first sentence of this passage iterates ... CORRECT**
- (B) They are likely to be less highly concentrated than are other storms ... **nothing in the passage suggests that highly concentrated storms in general are the ones on which atmospheric measurements can easily be made**
- (C) They are likely to be more difficult to predict than are other storms ... **the degree of difficulty faced in predicting the storms is not a part of the passage**
- (D) They occur less frequently along the eastern coast of North America than in other areas ... **the storms are never categorized in terms of the location they usually occur at**
- (E) They tend to affect larger areas than do other storms ... **never does the passage imply that larger the area a storm affects, the more easy it is to make atmospheric measurements on it**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 111)

The identification of femininity with morality and a belief in the innate moral superiority of women were fundamental to the cult of female domesticity in the nineteenth-century United States. **Ironically**, this ideology of female benevolence empowered women in the realm of social activism, enabling them to escape the confines of their traditional domestic spheres and to enter prisons, hospitals, battlefields, and slums. By following this path, some women came to wield considerable authority in the distribution of resources and services in their communities.

The sentimentalized concept of female benevolence bore little resemblance to women's actual work, which was decidedly unsentimental and businesslike, in that it involved chartering societies, raising money, and

**Comment [RN320]:** Ironical because one would imagine the cult to be highly influential in its own sphere, which is the domestic sphere, and yet their activities saw them gain influence in non-domestic spheres as well ...

paying salaries. Moreover, in the face of legal limitations on their right to control money and property, women had to find ingenious legal ways to run and finance organized philanthropy. In contrast to the day-to-day reality of this work, the idealized image of female benevolence lent a sentimental and gracious aura of altruism to the very real authority and privilege that some women commanded—which explains why some women activists clung tenaciously to this

Line 20

ideology. **But (CONTRAST WORD)** clinging to this ideology also prevented these women from even attempting to gain true political power because it implied a moral purity that precluded participation in the messy world of partisan politics.

Line 25

**Comment [RN321]:** These are women belonging to the domesticity cult and commanding authority and privilege in non-domestic spheres ...

**Comment [RN322]:** The ideology though saw them breaking the domestic barriers is finally seen holding them off from partisan politics ...

**Author:** NO OPINION (passage factual in nature ... it is merely stating facts)

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author presents the irony of how a cult of female domesticity led (because of their supposed ideology of female benevolence and moral superiority) to women having an influence in the non-domestic spheres as well. The author ends the passage by presenting one sphere that the cult did refrain from entering because of the ideology they so strongly believed in. It's like saying at least they didn't cross this particular barrier ...

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, the ideology of female benevolence was consistent with women taking part in each of the following spheres of activity EXCEPT (the question if rephrased simply asks which is the barrier they did not cross in the passage???)

- (A) organized philanthropy ... line 19 confirms they participated in this
- (B) domestic life ... this is the cult of female domesticity we're talking of ... of course they participated in their traditional domestic spheres ... line 7
- (C) electoral politics ... this is exactly the barrier they did not cross ... lines 25 onwards confirm their refrainment ... CORRECT
- (D) fund-raising for worthy causes ... line 15 confirms they participated in this
- (E) social work ... line 6 confirms they participated in this ... social activism

Information in the passage suggests that the author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements concerning the cult of female domesticity?

- (A) The cult of female domesticity developed independently of the concept of female benevolence ... **the cult's development is not a part of the passage ... neither is any sort of inter-dependence of the development of the cult with its ideology**
- (B) The cult of female domesticity was incompatible with women's participation in social activism ... **incompatible implies two things incapable of co-existing ... however, lines 5 – 6 out rightly mention that it is the ideology of the cult (female benevolence) that empowered them to take up social activism ... the word 'ironically' may pull your heartstrings towards choosing this option, however, ironic is not synonymous with incompatible ... once you show something to co-exist successfully no matter how ironic the situation you cannot call the two incompatible.**
- (C) The cult of female domesticity incorporated ideological elements that actually helped some women to escape from their traditional domestic roles ... **this is a paraphrase of lines 4 – 7 in the passage ... perfect match ... word by word verified. CORRECT.**
- (D) The original motivation behind the promotion of the cult of female domesticity was to exclude women from partisan politics ... **this option is a complete mess up of the cause and effect relationship ... never is it implied that the cult began the aim given in the option ... exclusion from politics is not even mentioned / implied to be a goal or a motive**
- (E) The growth of organized philanthropy in the nineteenth-century United States is ultimately attributable to the cult of female domesticity ... **this takes information beyond the scope of the passage ... the passage mentions the cult to be practicing organized philanthropy, however, nowhere is it implied that this was a key factor in the growth of philanthropy (in general ... not a part of the passage) in the nineteenth century US**

Which of the following best summarizes the main point of the passage?

- (A) The identification of femininity with morality promoted the notion of women's moral purity while excluding women from positions of authority in their communities ... **lines 8 – 11 mention something exactly opposite to what this option has to say ... 180 degrees answer**
- (B) The belief in women's innate moral superiority allowed women to exercise political power without participating in partisan politics ... **the women are never seen to be exercising any sort of political power whatsoever**
- (C) The cult of female domesticity helped some women to gain power and privilege but kept **most (superlative – AVOID)** women confined to the domestic sphere ... **it is not the cult helping some women but the ideology of female benevolence empowering the women of the cult ... the cult is never pictured to keeping women confined to the domestic sphere**
- (D) The ideology of female benevolence empowered women in the realm of social activism but placed limits on their direct political power ... **this is exactly the main theme around which the passage content is built ... everything prior to the contrast word in**

line 25 talks of how benevolence empowered women in the realm of social activism and everything post the contrast word talks of the refrainment from partisan politics because of the same ideology ... thus CORRECT

- (E) The idealization of female altruism enabled women to engage in philanthropic activities but prevented them from managing money and property ... **prevention from managing money and property is never mentioned in the passage ... also the option wrongly attributes engaging in philanthropic activities to the idealization of female altruism ... no such cause and effect relation between the two can be inferred from the passage**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 112)

Maps made by non-Native Americans to depict Native American land tenure, resources, and population distributions appeared almost as early as Europeans' first encounters with Native Americans and took many forms: missionaries' field sketches, explorers' drawings, and surveyors' maps, as well as maps rendered in connection with treaties involving land transfers. Most existing maps of Native American lands are reconstructions that are based largely on archaeology, oral reports, and evidence gathered from observers' accounts in letters, diaries, and official reports; accordingly, the accuracy of these maps is especially dependent on the mapmakers' own interpretive abilities.

Many existing maps also reflect the 150-year role of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in administering tribal lands. Though these maps incorporate some information gleaned directly from Native Americans, rarely has Native American cartography contributed to

**Comment [RN323]:** This paragraph just gives us a run through of the factual background info that one would find relevant while going through the argument presented in the next paragraph

Line 20 this official record, which has been compiled,  
surveyed, and authenticated by non-Native Americans.

Comment [RN324]: The premise of the author's argument ...

Thus our current cartographic record relating to Native  
American tribes and their migrations and cultural  
features, as well as territoriality and contemporary

Comment [RN325]: The conclusion deduced from the premise above ...

Line 25 trust lands, reflects the origins of the data, the mixed  
purposes for which the maps have been prepared, and  
changes both in United States government policy and  
in non-Native Americans' attitudes toward an  
understanding of Native Americans.

**Author: NO OPINION**

*the author presents a conclusion/argument that is logically derived from the premise and there is no reason in the passage to believe that this conclusion is something that the author solely believes in*

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author is primarily concerned with presenting an argument arriving at a range of information that one can glean from the age old maps of Native American lands.

**QUESTIONS**

The passage mentions each of the following as a factor affecting current maps of Native American lands EXCEPT

- (A) United States government policy ... mentioned in line 27
- (B) non-Native Americans' perspectives on Native Americans ... mentioned in lines 28 – 29
- (C) origins of the information utilized to produce the maps ... mentioned in line 25
- (D) changes in the ways that tribal lands are used ... such type of information is confirmed to be reflected from the cartographic record relating to Native American tribes. Thus CORRECT.
- (E) the reasons for producing the maps ... mentioned in lines 25 – 26

The passage suggests which of the following about most existing maps of Native American lands?

- (A) They do not record the migrations of Native American tribes ... lines 22 – 23 confirm that the maps (our current cartographic record relating to migrations) do record migrations
- (B) They have been preserved primarily (extreme - AVOID) because of their connection with treaties involving land transfers ... nothing in the passage gives away the primary

**purpose of the preservation of the maps ... rather nothing in the passage gives us a reason for their preservation**

- (C) They tend to reflect archaeological evidence that has become outdated ... **nothing in the passage is suggestive of the fact that the evidence (any) is outdated**
- (D) They tend to be less accurate when they are based on oral reports than when they are based on written documents ... **typical mathematical answer ... infuses comparison where there is none ... the passage never compares accuracy as is done in this option**
- (E) They are not based primarily on the mapmakers' firsthand observations of Native American lands ... **lines 8 – 14 confirm that the maps are 'largely' (→ a word that justifies the usage of the extreme word 'primarily' in the answer option) based on anything but firsthand observations ... thus CORRECT**

**Which of the following best describes the content of the passage?**

- (A) A **chronology (chronology answer – AVOID)** of the development of different methods for mapping Native American lands ... **methods for mapping Native American lands are not a part of the passage ... forget a shaping of these methods over time as the passage suggests**
- (B) A discussion of how the mapmaking techniques of Native Americans differed from those of Europeans ... **the passage does not present any such contrast ... map making techniques of Native Americans is not part of the passage**
- (C) An argument concerning the present-day uses to which historical maps of Native American lands are put ... **nothing in the passage is related to how the maps may be functionally used at present ... the passage is about deducing inferences from them not the uses to which they might be subjected in today's world**
- (D) An argument concerning the nature of information contained in maps of Native American lands ... **this is the exact argument that para 2 presents after the first para takes the reader through some relevant background info. CORRECT.**
- (E) A proposal for improving the accuracy of maps of Native American lands ... **the passage has no sort of proposal at all anywhere ... especially one to improve the accuracy of the maps**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 113)

After the Second World War, unionism in the Japanese auto industry was company-based, with separate unions in each auto company. Most company unions played no independent role in bargaining shop-floor

Line 5 issues or pressing autoworkers' grievances. In a 1981



survey, for example, fewer than 1 percent of workers said they sought union assistance for work-related problems, while 43 percent said they turned to management instead. There was little to distinguish

Line 10 the two in any case: most union officers were foremen or middle-level managers, and the union's role was primarily one of passive support for company goals.

Conflict occasionally disrupted this cooperative relationship—one company union's opposition to the

Line 15 productivity campaigns of the early 1980s has been cited as such a case. In 1986, however, a caucus led by the Foreman's Association forced the union's leadership out of office and returned the union's policy to one of passive cooperation. In the United States,

Line 20 the potential for such company unionism grew after 1979, but it had difficulty taking hold in the auto industry, where a single union represented workers from all companies, particularly since federal law prohibited foremen from joining or leading industrial

Line 25 unions. The Japanese model was often invoked as one in which authority decentralized to the shop floor empowered production workers to make key decisions.

What these claims failed to recognize was that the

Line 30 actual delegation of authority was to the foreman, not the workers. The foreman exercised discretion over job assignments, training, transfers, and promotions; worker initiative was limited to suggestions that fine-tuned a management-controlled production process.

**Comment [RN326]:** The author takes up the entire paragraph to simply narrate the condition or the status of the unions (or unionism in general) post the second world war. Even the example of the unions' status in the united states is taken with the purpose to show that it was because of the fact that foremen and managers in Japan were not prohibited by law from joining up the unions, that such a system was possible in the Japanese auto industry.

**Comment [RN327]:** This functions to introduce us to the true plight of the workers

**Comment [RN328]:** Kindly note that the verb introduced here is in its past tense ... the past tense 'failed' throws off the impression that the author is simply narrating a past event (fact) rather than iterating something that the author exclusively believes in ... this is neither a criticism nor an opinion ... just a plain simple fact brought to our attention by the author ... had the word been in its present tense 'fail' then that would have been a completely different story ...

Line 35 Rather than being proactive, Japanese workers were forced to be reactive, the range of their responsibilities being far wider than their span of control. **For**

**example**, the founder of one production system, Taichi Ohno, routinely gave department managers only 90

Line 40 percent of the resources needed for production. As soon as workers could meet production goals without working overtime, 10 percent of remaining resources would be removed. Because the "OH! NO!" system continually pushed the production process to the verge

Line 45 of breakdown in an effort to find the minimum resource requirement, critics described it as "management by stress."

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL** (*slightly narrative in tone ...*)

The author takes up the first paragraph to present the nature (company based) as well as the state or the condition of unionism in terms of how much representative it was of an ideal union. The author then takes up the second paragraph to present the true plight (as opposed to some of the claims made) of the workers (the supposedly prime beneficiaries of the unions) in the auto industry.

The passage is factual in nature ...

**Comment [RN329]:** Exemplification of the claim above ... more reactive than proactive ...

**Comment [RN330]:** The author takes up the second paragraph to state the conditions of the workers as a result of the status of the unions ... the unionization nature in Japan is shown in terms of how it impacted the conditions of the workers ...

## QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) contrasting the role of unions in the Japanese auto industry with the role of unions in the United States auto industry after the Second World War ... **the passage is not a contrast passage ... all the passage has to say about the United States is that the kind of unionism present in the Japanese auto industry was hard to replicate over at the US auto industry because of the law mentioned in the past sentence of the first para ... the passage does not mention any role played by unions in the US auto industry**
- (B) describing unionism and the situation of workers in the Japanese auto industry after the Second World War ... **this is exactly what the author is doing collectively in the passage as a whole ... unionism in the first and the true plight of the workers in the second ...**
- CORRECT**

- (C) providing examples of grievances of Japanese auto workers against the auto industry after the Second World War ... **grievances of workers implies a passage full of complaints by the workers ... moreover, grievances of workers is not synonymous with the plight of the workers ... grievances implies something coming directly from the workers' side**
- (D) **correcting a misconception (implies opinion and an implied negative tone)** about the role of the foreman in the Japanese auto industry's union system after the Second World War ... **the passage is not of the structure where the previously believed role of the foreman is described and the corrected role is then presented ... moreover this answer option implies a minimum of two opinions for a passage that has none. Even in line 29 of the passage, it is not the author correcting the claim above but the author showing that the claim has already been proven false and it is that very reason that the author is more interested in presenting ... as that reason constitutes the true plight of the workers**
- (E) **reasserting (strong opinion by the author)** the traditional view of the company's role in Japanese auto workers' unions after the Second World War ... **there is no explicit traditional view as described in this option in the passage ... and even if there were such a view ... the author would more likely be presenting it in the passage rather than reasserting it (as if it weren't asserted enough already!)**

According to the passage, a foreman in a United States auto company differed from a foreman in a Japanese auto company in that the foreman in the United States would

- (A) not have been a member of an auto workers' union ... **CORRECT. This is exactly what the lines 19 – 25 of the passage confirm ... the only reason, as per the passage, that a similar (company-based) unionism was not possible in the United States Auto Industry was what this option says**
- (B) have been unlikely to support the goals of company management ... **a foremen's support for the goals of a company is not a part of the passage**
- (C) have been able to control production processes to a large **(a bit extreme in context of the passage)** extent ... **again a foremen's link with his control over the production processes is something not talked of at all especially with regard to the US auto industry ... forget a comparison**
- (D) have experienced greater stress ... **stress is not a part of the paragraph we're currently concentrated on**
- (E) have experienced less conflict with workers ... **The US is never seen being compared to Japan in terms of the number of conflicts experienced at the two industries**

The author of the passage mentions the "OH! NO!" system (lines 38 – 47) primarily in order to (purpose question)

- (A) indicate a way in which the United States industry has become more like the Japanese auto industry ... **never does the author imply one industry influencing or being influenced by the other in terms of administrative practices ... the US is not part of the passage that we're concerned with here**

- (B) challenge a particular misconception about worker empowerment in the Japanese auto industry ... **the author begins the second para with a misconceived view of the Japanese model ... the author throughout the para discusses evidence that would help a reader understand why the claim in the very first line of the para may be construed as a misconception ... thus CORRECT. The system supports the fact that production workers were hardly actually empowered**
- (C) illustrate the kinds of problem-solving techniques encouraged by company unions in Japan ... **the author is not discussing any sort of techniques encouraged by company unions, but is more concerned with discussing the reactive plight of the workers**
- (D) **suggest (implies opinion by author)** an effective way of minimizing production costs in auto manufacturing ... **the author is never seen suggesting anything anywhere in the passage. Though one might think of the system as an effective method, however, that is not the reason the author cites this system ... the author is not comparing relative efficacy of systems in the para ... the author is more concerned with expressing the reactive nature of the employees**
- (E) provide an example of the responsibilities assumed by a foreman in the Japanese auto industry ... **the author is least bothered with presenting the role or the responsibilities assumed by a foreman**

It can be inferred that the author of the passage sees which of the following as the primary advantage to companies in implementing the "OH! NO!" system?

- (A) It permitted the foreman to take initiative ... **the foremen may be taking the initiative here but nothing in the passage suggests that this might be viewed as an advantage by the author**
- (B) It minimized the effort required to produce automobiles ... **lines 45 onwards confirm that the system was aimed at minimizing resource requirement not effort**
- (C) It ensured that production costs would be as low as possible ... **the primary advantage as per lines 45 onwards is the minimized resource requirement and thus lower production costs as a result ... thus CORRECT**
- (D) It allowed the foreman to control the production process ... **again the foremen controlling the production process is least understood as an advantage in the context of the passage / para**
- (E) It required considerable worker empowerment to achieve managers' goals ... **the passage on the contrary implies that the lesser the worker is empowered; the more easy it is to control the workforce and implement the "OH! NO!" system ... therefore, this suggests a logic that is 180 degrees to what can be gleaned from the passage**

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SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 114)

Planter-legislators of the post-Civil War southern

United States enacted crop lien laws stipulating that

those who advanced cash or supplies necessary to  
plant a crop would receive, as security, a claim, or lien,

Line 5 on the crop produced. In doing so, planters, most of  
whom were former slaveholders, sought access to  
credit from merchants and control over nominally free  
laborers—former slaves freed by the victory of the  
northern Union over the southern Confederacy in the

Line 10 United States Civil War. They hoped to reassure  
merchants that despite the emancipation of the slaves,  
planters would produce crops and pay debts. Planters  
planned to use their supply credit to control their  
workers, former slaves who were without money to  
Line 15 rent land or buy supplies. Planters imagined  
continuation of the pre-Civil War economic hierarchy:

merchants supplying landlords, landlords supplying  
laborers, and laborers producing crops from which  
their scant wages and planters' profits would come,

Line 20 allowing planters to repay advances. Lien laws  
frequently had unintended consequences, **however** (CONTRAST WORD),  
thwarting the planter fantasy of mastery without  
slavery. The newly freed workers, seeking to become  
self-employed tenant farmers rather than wage

Line 25 laborers, made direct arrangements with merchants  
for supplies. Lien laws, the centerpiece of a system  
designed to create a dependent labor force, became

**Comment [RN331]:** Notice here that it is the planters / southerners enacting the law ... how the planters perceive this law thus in a way becomes the intention of the southern legislators behind enacting the law ...

**Comment [RN332]:** Up till this point the author simply presents the intended effects of the lien laws ... the original purpose behind their creation by the legislators ... from this point beyond the author presents the real twist in the story ... the very twist that he wrote this passage ... that twist that follows this contrast word thus becomes the CENTRAL IDEA of the passage.

the means for workers, with alternative means of supply advances, to escape that dependence.

**Comment [RN333]:** Central Theme of the passage ...

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** NEUTRAL

The author is seen introducing and describing lien laws. The author then shows how the planters interpreted those laws and anticipated the continuation of the pre-civil war scenario regarding economic hierarchy. The author then describes how the lien laws had the opposite of this anticipated effect.

The passage is factual in nature ... the author is merely stating fact here!

### QUESTIONS

Which of the following best expresses the central idea of the passage?

- (A) Planters in the post-Civil War southern United States sought to reinstate the institution of slavery ... **nothing in the passage suggests that the planters wanted to reinstate slavery ... slavery had ended for good ... as per the lines 15 – 16 in the passage, they planters hoped for the continuation of economic hierarchy that existed prior to the civil war ... not the slavery itself ... how on earth can you call for slavery after losing the war against the northerners**
- (B) Through their decisions regarding supply credit, merchants controlled post-Civil War agriculture ... **the merchants are the suppliers and perhaps the only suppliers in the passage, however never does the passage launch the suppliers to a position where they're seen as controlling agriculture**
- (C) Lien laws helped to defeat the purpose for which they were originally created ... **this is exactly what follows the contrast word towards the end of the passage ... the last line of the passage tends to summarize the overall purpose why the author took the trouble to write this passage. CORRECT.**
- (D) Although slavery had ended, the economic hierarchy changed **little (implies no change)** in the post-Civil War southern United States ... **this option says that the hierarchy remained the same, however the passage (in lines 15 – 16) clearly mentions that this is something that the planters had wished for or imagined ... the situation is shown to run opposite to their imagination later in the passage ... thus this option cannot be confirmed**
- (E) Newly freed workers enacted lien laws to hasten the downfall of the plantation economy ... **the freed workers did not enact the laws ... downfall of the plantation is not a part of the passage**

According to the passage, each of the following was a reason planters supported crop lien laws EXCEPT:

- (A) Planters believed that lien laws would allow them to expand their landholdings ... **expansion of landholdings is not a part of the passage ... the passage deals entirely with gaining power over the former slaves, never with expansion of one's own**



property ... this option also stands out in the sense that it has nothing to do with former slaves ... thus **CORRECT**

- (B) Planters expected that lien laws would give them control over former slaves ... **mentioned in lines 5 – 8 of the passage**
- (C) Planters anticipated that lien laws would help them retain access to merchant credit ... **mentioned in lines 5 – 8 of the passage**
- (D) Planters intended to use lien laws to create a dependent labor force ... **mentioned in line 27 of the passage as a primary aim of the laws from the point of view of the planters**
- (E) Planters saw lien laws as a way to maintain their traditional economic status ... **mentioned in lines 15 – 16 of the passage ... economic hierarchy**

**The passage suggests which of the following about merchants in the post-Civil War southern United States?**

- (A) They sought to preserve pre-Civil War social conditions ... **the merchants are never seen interested in any sort of social conditions or activities**
- (B) Their numbers in the legislatures had been diminished ... **their numbers are not a part of the passage**
- (C) Their businesses had suffered from a loss of collateral ... **nothing about their businesses is mentioned ... nothing of such sort certainly**
- (D) They were willing to make business arrangements with former slaves ... **CORRECT. Confirmed from lines 23 – 26 is the fact that merchants made direct arrangements with the freed workers**
- (E) Their profits had declined because planters defaulted on debts for supply advances ... **the passage has absolutely no comment to make on their profits ... the reassurance to pay debts mentioned in lines (10 – 12) does not imply that the planters defaulted on debts**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 115)

In the 1980's, astronomer Bohdan Paczynski proposed a way of determining whether the enormous dark halo constituting the outermost part of the Milky Way galaxy is composed of MACHO's (massive compact halo objects), which are astronomical objects too dim to be visible. Paczynski reasoned that if MACHO's make up this halo, a MACHO would occasionally drift in

Line 5

front of a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud, a bright galaxy near the Milky Way. The gravity of a MACHO that had so drifted, astronomers agree, would cause the star's light rays, which would otherwise diverge, to bend together so that, as observed from Earth, the star would temporarily appear to brighten, a process known as microlensing. Because many individual stars are of intrinsically variable brightness, some astronomers have **contended** that the brightening of intrinsically variable stars can be mistaken for microlensing. **However** (CONTRAST WORD), whereas the different colors of light emitted by an intrinsically variable star are affected differently when the star brightens, all of a star's colors are equally affected by microlensing. Thus, if a MACHO magnifies a star's red light tenfold, it will do the same to the star's blue light and yellow light. **Moreover** (transition word), it is highly unlikely that a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud will undergo microlensing more than once, because the chance that a second MACHO would pass in front of exactly the same star is minuscule.

**Author:** NO OPINION

**Tone:** POSITIVE (implicit support by the author towards the line of reasoning by Paczynski)

The author does come across as mildly supporting (implicitly as he only produces hard evidence without any opinion) Paczynski's line of reasoning.

The author introduces astronomer Paczynski's line of reasoning suggesting a way to identify MACHOs in the outermost part of the Milky Way galaxy. The author then takes up a contention put forth by some astronomers and shows with the help of factual knowledge how their contention lacks any force to weaken Paczynski's line of reasoning.

**Comment [RN334]:** This is an objection raised by some astronomers attacking the line of reasoning used in proposing a method to identify MACHO's in the outermost part of the milky way galaxy.

**Comment [RN335]:** A contrast word by the author immediately following the contention implies the author is trying to neutralize the attack made by the astronomers ... the author presents factual evidence to show that the astronomers' attack lacks any credible force ... this may be construed as implicit support by the author

**Comment [RN336]:** Further evidence to substantiate the reasoning put forth by Paczynski ... this may be construed as implicit support by the author

### QUESTIONS

It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following would constitute the strongest evidence of the microlensing of a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud?

- (A) The brightness of such a star is observed to vary at irregular intervals ... **this option implies that the brightness of the star varies more than once ... multiple times ... the passage, however, clearly states that a case of microlensing would rarely see a star vary its brightness the second time ... forget multiple times**
- (B) The brightening of such a star is observed to be of shorter duration than the brightening of neighboring stars ... **duration comparison with nearby stars is not a part of the passage ... nothing in the passage implies that such an observation can yield anything substantial about microlensing**
- (C) The red light of such a star is observed to be brighter than its yellow light and its blue light ... **this has nothing to say about the factor increase in the brightness of the individual colours ... the colours instead of being compared in terms of absolute brightness among themselves ought to be compared with each other in terms of the factor increase in their brightness**
- (D) The red light, yellow light, and blue light of such a star are observed to be magnified temporarily by the same factor ... **lines 18–24 confirm that in the event of microlensing all the colours have to be raised by the same factor ... as in this option. CORRECT**
- (E) The red light of such a star is observed to have increased tenfold ... **unless and until this result can be tallied with the factor with which other colours increased, this information is of little use to us**

According to the passage, Paczynski's theory presumes that if MACHO's constituted the Milky Way's dark halo, occasionally a MACHO would

- (A) drift so as to lie in a direct line between two stars in the outer Milky Way ... **the passage never implies any such condition**
- (B) affect the light rays of a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud with the result that the star would seem for a time to brighten ... **the option is an exact paraphrase of what lines 9 – 14 of the passage have to say. CORRECT**
- (C) become obscured as a result of the microlensing of a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud ... **the passage already implies that the MACHO is too dim to be observed from earth and can only be detected through its gravitational effect on the light from a star in the large Magellanic Cloud ... thus the MACHO is already obscured at all times**
- (D) temporarily increase the apparent brightness of a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud by increasing the gravity of the star ... **nowhere does the passage imply that the MACHO may cause an increase in the gravity of the star whose apparent brightness is seen to temporarily increase**
- (E) magnify each color in the spectrum of a star in the Large Magellanic Cloud by a different amount ... **180 degrees ... lines 18 – 24 say the exact opposite for the case of microlensing ... what this option mentions is said for the intrinsically variable brightness phenomenon**

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) **outlining reasons (bullet list answer)** why a particular theory is no longer credited by some astronomers ... **the passage presents one reason why the astronomers contend with the line of reasoning ... moreover, there is no theory as such present in the passage ... to contend and to discredit are two different things**
- (B) presenting data collected by a researcher in response to some astronomers' criticism of a particular line of reasoning ... **a contention is not synonymous with criticism ... the data that this option talks of is hard evidence forwarded by the author of the passage to weaken the force of attack of the astronomers ... it is not data collected in response to the contention ... notice how 'in response to' infuses an unwarranted cause and effect relationship**
- (C) explaining why a researcher proposed a particular theory and illustrating how influential that theory has been ... **the reason behind Paczynski putting forth his line of reasoning is not a part of the passage ... nor is its influence ... the word 'theory' is not verified from the passage**
- (D) showing how a researcher's theory has been used to settle a dispute between the researcher and some astronomers ... **the passage never implies a dispute between the researcher and the astronomers ... neither is the line of reasoning seen to settle the so called dispute ... the word 'theory' is not verified from the passage**
- (E) describing a line of reasoning put forth by a researcher and **addressing a contention (positive tone – implicit support)** concerning that line of reasoning ... **this option encompasses both of what the author is doing in the passage ... describing what Paczynski has to say and then addressing a contention raised by some astronomers ... thus CORRECT**

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99<sup>TH</sup> PERCENTILE CLUB  
SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 116)

This passage was excerpted from material published in 1996.

When a large body strikes a planet or moon, material is ejected, thereby creating a hole in the planet and a local deficit of mass. This deficit shows up as a gravity anomaly: the removal of material that has been ejected to make the hole results in an area in slightly lower gravity than surrounding areas. One would therefore expect that all of the large multi-ring impact

Line 5

basins on the surface of earth's moon would show such negative gravity anomalies, since they are, essentially, large holes in lunar surface. **Yet (CONTRAST WORD)** data

collected in 1994 by the Clementine spacecraft show that many of these Clementine basins have no anomalously low gravity and some even have anomalously high gravity. **Scientists** speculate that

early in lunar history, when large impactors struck the moon's surface, causing millions of cubic kilometers of crustal debris to be ejected, denser material from the moon's mantle rose up beneath the impactors almost immediately, compensating for the ejected material

and thus leaving no gravity anomaly in the resulting basin. Later, however, as moon grew cooler and less elastic, rebound from large impactors would have been only partial and incomplete. Thus today such **gravitational compensation** probably **would not**

occur: the outer layer of moon is too cold and stiff.

**Comment [RN337]:** Notice how the contrast word here sets apart the 'main theme' of the passage ... all of a sudden the author demands the reader's attention to measurements that do not conform to the idea introduced above ... the passage from here on becomes all about explaining how the gravity anomaly may have been compensated for ...

**Comment [RN338]:** This is a part of the scientists' speculation above. This does not comprise the author suggesting what he believes ... thus not an opinion.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author introduces the concept of how a gravity anomaly may be formed on the surface of a planet or a moon. The author then mentions the measurements on craters on the lunar surface to be inconsistent with the concept introduced earlier. The author then presents the view of the scientists as to what can possibly explain the absence of gravity anomalies on most of the craters on the lunar surface. The author remains uninvolved in the entire discussion.

The passage is purely factual in nature ... a bit more on the narrative side.

### QUESTIONS

According to the passage, the gravitational compensation referred to in the highlighted text is caused by which of the following?

- (A) A deficit of mass resulting from the creation of hole in lunar surface ... **as per the passage, a deficit of mass as a result of a hole in the lunar surface causes (that we can**

- be sure of) a gravity anomaly or a region of low gravitational field ... the gravitational compensation depends on how cool or stiff the outer layer of the moon is
- (B) The presence of material from the impactor in the debris created by its impact ... the debris is the material that is ejected into outer space upon impact ... this material has no effect on the gravitational compensation at all ... completely irrelevant
- (C) The gradual cooling and stiffening of the Moon's outer surface ... gravitational compensation is a rather quick and immediate (lines 18 – 19) process as per the passage rather than slow and gradual one
- (D) The ejection of massive amounts of debris from the moon's crust ... again the outgoing material is of least is of least relevance to any post effects on the lunar surface
- (E) The rapid upwelling of material from the lunar mantle ... lines 17 – 21 confirm this option word by word ... the mantle being the denser material immediately rises up.  
**CORRECT**

The Passage suggests that if the scientists mentioned in the highlighted text are correct in their speculations, the large multi-ring impact basins on the Moon with the most significant negative gravity anomalies probably

- (A) were not formed early in the Moon's history ... the passage mentions the surface to become cool and stiff with time ... enough to impede any rebound from large impactors thereby leaving basins with negative gravity anomaly. **CORRECT**
- (B) were not formed by the massive ejection of crustal debris ... this is irrelevant to the discussion and out of scope of the passage ... the passage clearly takes up only those gravity anomaly basins that are formed when material is ejected upon impact
- (C) are closely surrounded by other impact basins with anomalously low gravity ... the surroundings of an impact basin are never a part of the discussion ... the gravity anomaly is never seen to be influenced by the gravity anomaly of other basins
- (D) were created by the impact of multiple large impactors ... the number of impactors is not connected with the ease with which gravitational compensation is possible ... the size is only important to assure there is material ejected upon impact
- (E) were formed when the moon was relatively elastic ... the passage suggests that the more relatively elastic the moon's surface the more easy is the rebound from large impactors resulting in no negative gravity anomaly owing to gravitational compensation

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) analyzing data from a 1994 exploration of lunar surface ... the data is only shown to not conform to what one would expect going by logic ... the passage never examines the data with the motive of interpreting what it means ... the data is not the main theme here
- (B) reconciling (implies opinion) two opposing theories about the origin of lunar impact basins ... the passage does not present any theory ... the origins as such are not discussed
- (C) presenting a possible explanation of a puzzling finding about lunar impact basins ... exactly ... the author presents the views of scientists who have come up with a



possible explanation of the finding that many craters show no negative gravity anomaly ... **CORRECT**

- (D) discussing how impact basins on the Moon's surface are formed ... **the passage has nothing to do with the process of formation of the basins ... not discussed**
- (E) examining the claim that the moon's impact basins show negative gravity anomalies ... **such a claim is never made ... this is introduced as a logical inference that anyone would arrive at about the impact basin's on the moon given the concept of gravity anomaly**

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### SOLUTION TO PASSAGE (PAGE # 117)

The system of patent-granting, which confers temporary monopolies for the exploitation of new technologies, was **originally** established as an incentive to the pursuit of risky new ideas. **Yet (CONTRAST WORD)** studies of the most patent-conscious business of all—the semiconductor industry—suggest that **firms do not necessarily become more innovative as they increase their patenting activity → (main idea ... the connection)**. Ziedonis and Hall, **for example**, found that investment in research and development (a reasonable proxy for innovation) **did not (connection / correlation)** substantially increase between 1982 and 1992, the industry's most feverish period of patenting. Instead, semiconductor firms simply squeezed more patents out of existing research and development expenditures. Moreover, Ziedonis and Hall found that as patenting activity at semiconductor firms increased in the 1980's, the consensus among industry employees was that the average quality of their firms' patents declined **(additional correlation data)**. Though patent quality is a difficult notion to measure,

**Comment [RN339]:** Says out the original intent

**Comment [RN340]:** A contrast word followed immediately by the original intent of a particular system is a strong give away of the main idea to come ...

**Comment [RN341]:** 'for example' this early in the passage puts forth a 95% chance that the MAIN IDEA (not necessarily opinion) of the passage DOES NOT lie beyond this point ... thus this taken in conjunction with the contrast word YET above confirms that the LOCATION of the main idea of the passage has to lie between the two ... YET & FOR EXAMPLE ... and it indeed does

Line 20 the number of times a patent is cited in the technical literature is a reasonable yardstick, and citations per semiconductor patent did decline (→ **correlation data**) during the 1980's.

This decline in quality **may be** related to changes in the way semiconductor firms managed their patenting

Line 25 **process**: rather than patenting to win exclusive rights to a valuable new technology, patents were filed more for strategic purposes, to be used as bargaining chips to ward off infringement suits or as a means to block competitors' products.

**Author: NO OPINION**

**Tone: NEUTRAL**

The author isn't unhappy with what's going on ... he simply shows us that data need not necessarily CORRELATE in every case ... that's all no further implications

The author presents a study to show that some data need not necessarily follow the general or any correlation trend (as it should, given the original intent of the system) ... the author then follows this up with examples

### QUESTIONS

The passage is primarily concerned with discussing

- (A) a study suggesting that the semiconductor industry's approach to patenting during the period from 1982 to 1992 yielded unanticipated results ... **firstly the point of discussion in the passage is never the STUDY (keep the main idea in mind) ... to discuss a study means to in depth into how the study was conducted and all ... the study is only mentioned never discussed ... secondly if you do decide to call the surprising result (and not results) unanticipated (for which an explicit anticipation has to be laid out first ... at least somewhere), then it wasn't the APPROACH that yielded the result but the study**
- (B) a study of the semiconductor industry during the period from 1982 to 1992 that advocates certain changes in the industry's management of the patenting process ... **the study only implies and does not advocate ... so such certain changes in the management are supported by the text of the passage ... no study is discussed**
- (C) the connection between patenting and innovation in the semiconductor industry during the period from 1982 to 1992 ... **perfect match ... subtly put ... the main idea is about discussing the correlation ... CORRECT**
- (D) reasons that investment in research and development in the semiconductor industry did not increase significantly during the period from 1982 to 1992 ... **a discussing**

**Comment [RN342]:** Kind Note: the word 'may' here is not to be confused for saying out the author's opinion ... here 'may be' in usage is synonymous to 'can be' ... To decide whether an opinion, the sentence is required to be seen in context of the entire passage as a whole ... here's how → the passage just above presents a correlation data and uses the may sentence to present a reason for the same ... 'may' thus used here is used to indicate a certain measure of likelihood or possibility. Having established the role of the word 'may' we are at a point where the sentence can either be or not be an opinion ... the fine line is drawn by figuring out ... CONTD in the next comment

**Comment [RN343]:** CONTD from above ... whether this part, the one whose possibility is presented using the word 'may', is something that the author and only the author believes to be true or is it something he knows and derives it from verifiable facts. Look at the part that follows the colon in line 25 ... that part has no usage of words like could signalling anything hypothetical. The line is a verifiable fact presentation from which the possibility / likelihood following 'may' is derived ... this is thus just another fact and not an opinion. CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLE → It may be that the race is fixed (OPINION because we have with us a non-verifiable possibility). He may have to refuel as early as in the third lap if his fuel optimizer breaks down again (NOT AN OPINION because the possibility presented is verifiable)

reasons passage would follow more of a bullet list pattern ... reason 1, reason 2 ... there is only one reason presented in the end and that too for the declining quality not for what the option says

- (E) certain factors that made the period from 1982 to 1992 a time of intense patenting activity in the semiconductor industry ... there is no reasoning behind the patenting activity in the passage ... certain factors again gives off a factor 1, factor 2 kind of scent

The passage suggests that the use of patents as bargaining chips to ward off infringement suits

- (A) was rarely successful during the 1980s ... the passage does not talk about the success of the strategy in question
- (B) became increasingly infrequent in the 1980s ... the passage suggests quite the contrary ... 180 degrees answer
- (C) does not fulfill the intended purpose of the patent-granting system ... exactly ... as per the passage the intended effect is to encourage the pursuit of risky new ideas and the use as described in the question marks a significant deviation from the intended purpose. CORRECT.
- (D) is a consequence of the decline in patent quality ... reversal of cause and effect ... rather the frequent use as described in the question led to a subsequent decrease in the patent quality as per the passage
- (E) is discussed increasingly in the semiconductor industry's technical literature ... never does the passage suggest that such a strategy could be a part of technical literature

The passage suggests which of the following about patenting in the semiconductor industry during the period from 1982 to 1992?

- (A) The declining number of citations per semiconductor patent in the technical literature undermines the notion that patenting activity increased during this period ... the citations are a measure of the patent quality and have nothing to do with the patenting activity as per the passage
- (B) A decline in patent quality forced firms (specific to general error – all firms implies here) to change the way they managed the patenting process ... the patent quality has not been mentioned to be associated with any changes that might have followed ... certainly not the patenting process management
- (C) Increased efficiencies (not verified from the passage – has no mention) allowed firms to derive more patents from existing research and development expenditures ... we don't have any reasoning in the passage for more patents being derived from existing R & D funds
- (D) Firms' emphasis on filing patents for strategic purposes may have contributed to a decline in patent quality ... the additional correlation data in lines 15 – 18 can easily infer this answer option ... CORRECT
- (E) Firms' attempts to derive more patents from existing research and development expenditures may have contributed to a decline in infringement suites ... a decline in

**infringement suites has no mention in the passage let alone a connection with anything**

**The passage makes which of the following claims about patent quality in the semiconductor industry?**

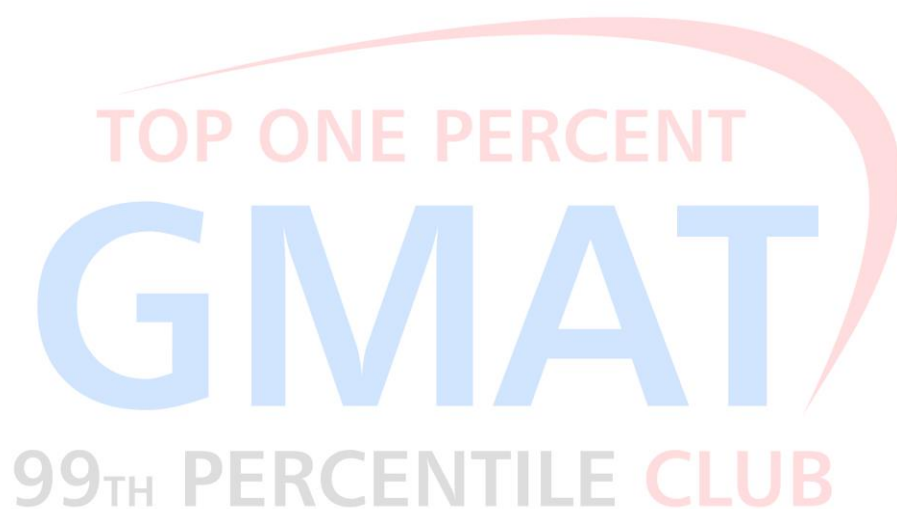
- (A) It was higher in the early 1980's than it was a decade later ... **it did decline in the period in discussion as confirmed by line 18 and line 22 ... this therefore becomes a SET THEORY COMPLEMENT answer ... CORRECT**
- (B) It is largely independent of the number of patents granted ... **the additional correlation data in lines 15 – 18 present a pretty much opposite picture ... 180 degrees**
- (C) It changed between 1982 and 1992 in ways that were linked to changes in research and development expenditures ... **the passage has no mention of any changes in the R & D expenditures, let alone a link.**
- (D) It is not adequately discussed in the industry's technical literature ... **patent quality is a notion that the two researchers come up with in the process of carrying out their survey ... it has never anything to do with being discussed in any literature**
- (E) It was measured by inappropriate means during the period from 1982 to 1992 ... **the means of measurement are show to be the reasonably appropriate ... 180 degrees answer**

**Which of the following, if true, would most clearly serve to weaken the author's claim about what (the frequency of citations) constitutes a reasonable yardstick for measuring patent quality?**

- (A) It is more difficult to have an article accepted for publication in the technical literature of the semiconductor industry than it is in the technical literature of most other industries ... **this option discusses acceptance and not frequency ... the comparison with other industries is irrelevant**
- (B) Many of the highest-quality semiconductor patents are cited numerous times in the technical literature ... **increased frequency → high quality ... this strengthens the argument core rather than weakening**
- (C) It is difficult for someone not familiar with the technical literature to recognize what constitutes an innovative semiconductor patent ... **the ones not familiar are never a part of the argument ... never is the argument asking them to judge how frequently the patents ought to cited**
- (D) There were more citations made per semiconductor patent in the technical literature in the 1970's than in the 1980's ... **since we do know that the patent quality went down in the 80's ... this again relays in the direction of strengthening the argument**
- (E) Low-quality patents tend to be discussed in the technical literature as frequently as high-quality patents ... **addresses frequency of citations ... says frequency is irrelevant to the patent's quality ... destroys the argument that there is a connection. CORRECT.**

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**END OF SOLUTIONS**



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